

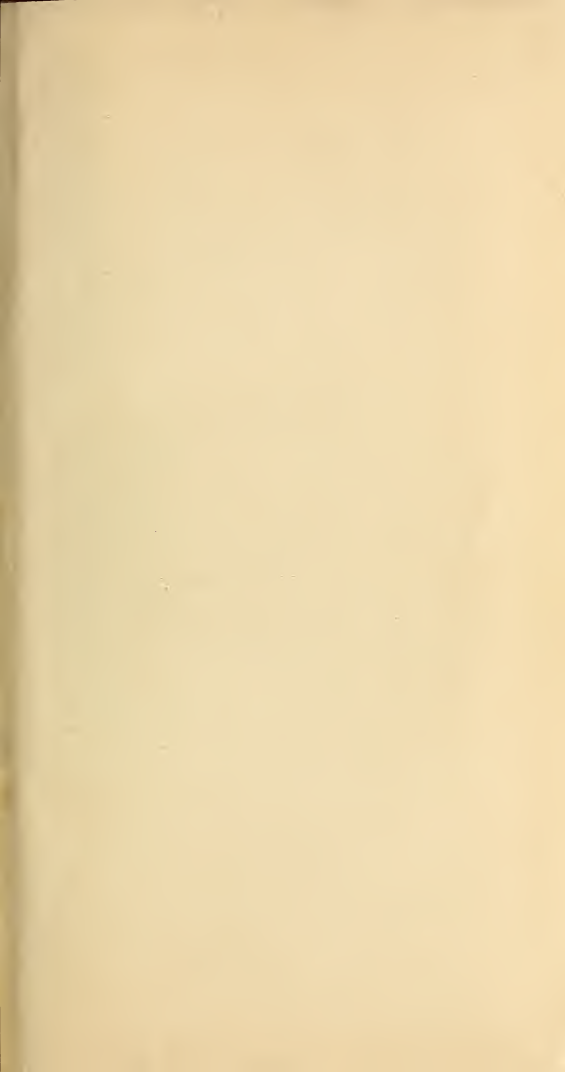


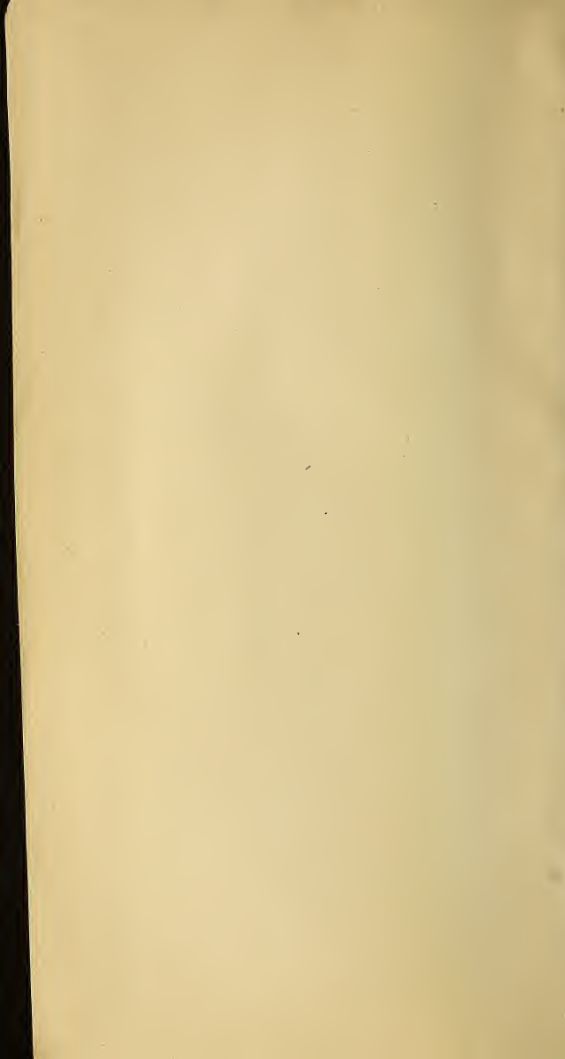


Class TA 670

Book Y6M4



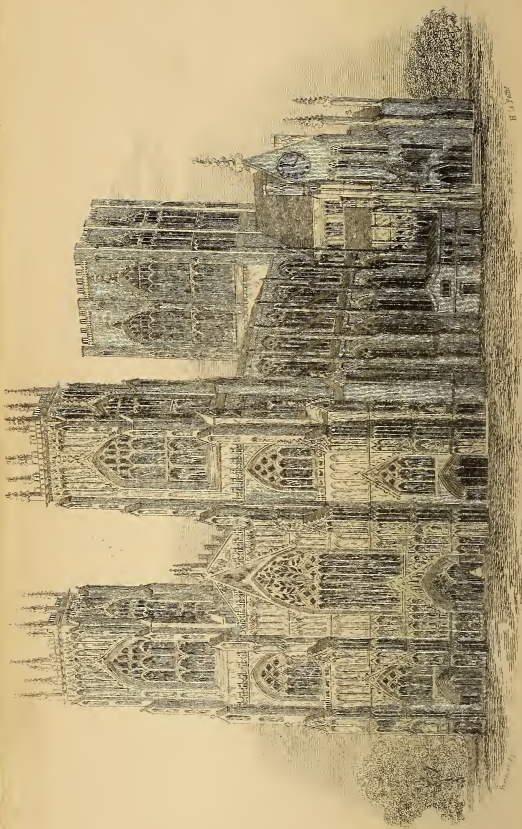




1

702

805



PUBLISHED BY JOSEPH JOHNSON.

THE  
ANNALS  
OF  
YORKSHIRE,  
FROM THE  
EARLIEST PERIOD  
TO THE PRESENT TIME.

COMPILED BY

John Mayhall.

---

Still on it creeps,  
Each little moment at another's heels,  
Till Hours, Days, Years, and Ages are made up  
Of such small parts as these, and men look back,  
Worn and bewildered, wond'ring how it is.  
Thou trav'lest like a Ship in the wide ocean,  
Which hath no bounding shore to mark its progress.  
*Joanna Baillie.*

---

LEEDS :

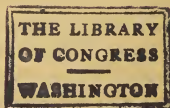
PUBLISHED BY JOSEPH JOHNSON, ROTATION-  
OFFICE YARD, KIRKGATE.

—  
1862.

4271

01

DA 670  
46  
m 4



## P R E F A C E .

---

THIS volume contains in chronological order, the principal events that have occurred in Yorkshire, from the date of the most remote authentic histories, down to the present time.

The events have been selected and condensed from every source of information within the reach of the compiler, and through the kindness of friends, several curious and interesting particulars are now published for the first time.

Great care has been taken to avoid giving a party or political bias to the work, so that it will be found interesting to all classes of readers.

The compiler feels grateful to Mr. Kemplay, for the loan of the *Leeds Intelligencer* from 1830 to 1834 inclusive, and to other gentlemen who have favoured him with books and manuscripts.

Where so many subjects are treated upon, notwithstanding that the utmost attention has been paid to accuracy, mistakes will doubtless have been made ; but the compiler hopes for the reader's indulgence, and would state in palliation of faults, both of omission and commission, that besides the perusal of many works connected with the subjects introduced, he has had to wade through thirty years of local newspapers, (the *Mercury* and *Intelligencer*,) and that after the toil of the day, and in hours stolen from recreation, etc.

The work is embellished with a few scarce engravings. The view of Leeds has been engraved from Thoresby's *Ducatus Leodiensis*, published in the year 1715. The beautiful view of Kirkstall Abbey, taken in 1769, has been copied from a scarce and valuable engraving in the possession of James Hargrave, Esq., of Burley, near Leeds, kindly lent by him for that purpose. The other views consist of York Minster, the Leeds old Moot Hall, the Parish Church before it was rebuilt, the Town Hall, the Crimean Monument recently erected in the Leeds Parish Church, and views of Skipton and Huddersfield.

With these explanations the work is committed to the public, in the hope that it will receive that favour, of which the compiler and the publisher have endeavoured to make it worthy.



# ANNALS

OF

## LEEDS, YORK,

AND THE SURROUNDING DISTRICT;

CONTAINING, IN CHRONOLOGICAL ORDER, ALL THE MOST INTERESTING EVENTS, THAT HAVE OCCURRED IN, OR RELATE TO THIS IMPORTANT PART OF THE KINGDOM, FROM THE EARLIEST PERIOD TO THE PRESENT TIME; COLLECTED FROM THE WORKS OF NUMEROUS AUTHORS, NEWSPAPERS, &c., &c.

---

EARLY history is necessarily involved in great obscurity. The memory of the human race extends back only to about 3000 years from the present date, leaving an indefinite period before that, during the infancy of the species a total blank. Nor does the scriptural account of the creation settle the point. As many as two hundred different calculations as to the age of our species have been founded, by different divines, on the statements of the sacred records, the discrepancy arising from the uncertainty of those texts of the Old Testament in which *numbers* occur. The longest of these calculations dates the creation of man at about 8800 years from the present time, or about 7000 years before the birth of Christ; the shortest at about 5300 years from the present time, or 3500 years before the birth of Christ; the system usually adopted by historians is that of Archbishop Usher, which fixes the event at B.C. 4004, or 5864 years from the present date.

B.C.1856.-45.

1856. B.C. Memnon invented the letters of the alphabet.—Prometheus first struck fire from flints.

1021. In this year antiquarians say that York, or *Eboracum*, was built by Abraucus, the son of Mempricius, a British king, who reigned about the time when David held the sceptre of Judea, and Gad, Nathan, and Asaph prophesied in Israel. The origin of York being involved in the obscurity of more than twenty centuries, various conjectures have been formed respecting its ancient name, which is generally believed to have been *Caer-ebrauc*; though Humphrey Lhuyd, the learned Welsh antiquarian, says, *Eboracum* is well known to be the very same city that the Britons called *Caer-Effroc*, and is now contracted into York.

55. Julius Cæsar, after having conquered Egypt, Asia, Spain, and France, sent no fewer than 800 vessels with his troops to invade Britain. The British Islands were at this time occupied by barbarous tribes, who lived exactly as the Indians now do, upon animals caught in hunting, and fruits which grew spontaneously. They stained and tattooed their bodies, and wore personal ornaments and trinkets made of iron. They had no religion, but a bloody idolatry called Druidism.

45. Julius Cæsar, being led by Sosigenes, an astronomer of his time, to believe that there was an error in the calendar of six hours in a year, (*the year at this time was estimated at exactly 365 days, no notice being taken of the extra 5h. 48m. 49s.*) ordained that six hours should be set aside for four years, and then added. This was done by doubling the 24th Feb; and in order to commence aright the first year was to be called a 'year of confusion,' made up of 15 months, so as to cover the 90 days which had then been lost. (See 1582 and 1751.)

"The towns of the Britons" says Cæsar "were inaccessible woods fortified by ditches and ramparts," thus, "forests served them for cities; they cut down a number of trees to inclose a large circle, within which they erected huts and stalls for their cattle, which were not designed for continued use." A rampart of earth, aided by trees cut down for that purpose formed generally their whole defence, both from the warlike incursions of neighbouring tribes, and the attacks of the wild beasts, with which the country in these early times abounded. The Romans experienced great difficulty in subduing the Britons; but when the conquest was in a great measure completed, the country was governed in the usual manner of a Roman province; and towns began to rise in the course of time, being gener-

45.-A.D. 61.

ally those whose names are now found to end in *Chester*; as Manchester, Winchester, &c., a termination derived from *Castra*, the latin word for camp. There was a *Castrum* or an entrenched camp at Leeds on the hill lying between Charles Street and High Street; then called "Wall-flatt." A *Trajectus*, or ford crossed the Aire, a short distance on the east side of the present old bridge. The Roman Roads which intersected Yorkshire can occasionally be traced with considerable accuracy. There was first the road from Doncaster, through what is called Pontefract Park, to Castleford, to Tadcaster, and thence to York. Second: the road from Tadcaster, through Slack near Huddersfield, to Manchester, passed through Leeds in a line a little to the east of Briggate, and its line is traceable in the neighbourhood of Morley and Gildersome. (The word *Street* is derived from the latin word *Stratum*, which indicates the course of a Roman road, hence Gildersome-street, near Morley, and Street-lane, and Street-houses, on the moors near Shadwell, indicate the course of a Roman road) Third: a road from Castleford, ran through Adel, towards Ilkley.

44. Ten years after the invasion of Britain by Julius Cæsar, Brutus and Cassius attacked and murdered him in the senate-house, at the foot of Pompey's statue in Rome.

25. Coin was first used in Britain.

Our Saviour Jesus Christ was born on Monday, Dec. 25, four years before the common era, and was crucified on April 3rd, at 3 o'clock, p.m. A.D., 33.

A.D.

4. A Mint was erected at Colchester, where gold, silver, and copper coins were made; previous to which iron bullion was used.

43. The Emperor Claudius sent a large army into Britain.

49. London is said to have been founded by the Romans.

50. Ostorius Scapula, the Roman general in England sent to Rome as a prisoner, a British prince called Caradoc, or Caractacus, whose noble behaviour, moved Claudius to grant him his pardon.

59. St. Peter and St. Paul were put to death about June 29th, being in the same year that Linus was made first Bishop of Rome.

61. In this year a Roman general Suetonius did much to reduce the Britons, by destroying the numerous Druidical temples in the isle of Anglesea. The Britons, taking advantage of his absence, were all in arms, headed by Boadicea, queen of the Iceni, on whom and her fair daughters had been committed the most nameless indignity, by certain

61.-211.

of the Roman tribunes. Suetonius hastened to the protection of London, which was now a flourishing Roman colony. Two fearful engagements followed. London was reduced to ashes; its inhabitants cruelly massacred; the Romans and others to the number of 70,000 were put to the sword without distinction; while to avenge this cruelty Suetonius waged a most decisive war in which 80,000 of the Britons perished, and Boadicea rather than fall into the hands of the enraged victor, put an end to her life by poison.

78. Julius Agricola was advanced to the government of Britain in this year. He introduced the pleasures and luxuries of Rome, and was the first to sail round the island. He built a line of forts between the rivers Forth and Clyde, and defeated the Caledonians under Galgacus, on the Grampian hills.

124. The Roman emperor Adrian came to England, and took up his station at York, which had been fortified by Agricola, and was now garrisoned by the *Legio Sexta, Victrix*, brought over from Rome, to assist in the conquest of Caledonia. York, which had been previously the seat of British kings, now became the occasional residence of Roman emperors.

180. York was constituted a metropolitan see by king Lucius.

208. The emperor Severus on hearing that the Britons had besieged York under Fulgenius, a Scythian general, immediately came over to Britain, accompanied by his two sons Caracalla and Geta, and his whole court. He was then sixty years old, and very infirm. Severus lived more than three years in the city, where he stamped upon his coin the title of *Britannicus Maximus*, as conqueror of Britain. During this time York shone in its full splendour.

211. Severus died at York Feb. 5th, and on his death-bed called for an Urn, in which his ashes were to be deposited, after the Roman custom, and gazing steadfastly on it, he said,—“Thou shalt hold what the whole world could scarcely contain;” soon after speaking these emphatic words, he calmly breathed his last, after reigning sixteen years. A short time before his death, the Caledonians again took up arms, and attacked the Roman garrisons on the borders, which threw the emperor into such unfeeling rage, that he sent out his legions, with orders to put every man, woman, and child amongst the insurgents to the sword; but before his bloody purpose could be fully executed, death overtook him, and his funeral obsequies were celebrated at a short

211.-326.

distance from the city, near the three large tumuli, at Holdgate, which still bear the name of Severus's Hills. His body, habited in his general's costume, was brought out in military array, and laid on a magnificent pile, which was lighted by his sons; and his remains, after being reduced to ashes, were placed in an urn of porphyry, to be carried to Rome, where they were deposited in the monument of the Antonines, and the extraordinary ceremony of deification was conferred upon the deceased emperor, to whose memory Drake says the three hills near York were raised by his grateful army.

212. York became the scene of the most inhuman cruelties, committed by Caracalla, who, perceiving that Geta had a powerful party in the army, ordered 20,000 soldiers to be put to death, under a pretence of mutiny; and murdered his brother Geta with his own hands, in the arms of his mother.

272. *Constantine the Great*, born at York, travelled into Asia Minor, whence he returned on hearing of his father's illness, and arrived at the imperial palace at York, in time to embrace Constantius, his father, who, in 307, appointed him his successor. Upon the demise of Constantius, the Roman army in York invested Constantine with the imperial purple, and York, being at this period in the zenith of its splendour, was thence called *Altera Roma*, and Britain remained tranquil under the mild influence of Constantine's pacific sway. After dividing his extensive dominions into four prefectures, he removed the seat of government from Rome to Byzantium, from which period may be dated the decline of the Roman power in Britain, and the consequent decay of York. Constantine died in 337: Camden says this emperor built the walls of London.

287. Carausius, who had been sent with a fleet to guard the Belgic coast, passed over into Britain, and was proclaimed emperor at York: he entered into a league with the Picts and Scots, by whose assistance he overcame Quintus Bassianus a Roman lieutenant, whom Dioclesian sent from Rome to dispossess Carausius, who, it is believed was slain at York by his friend Alectus.

298. Constantius Chlorus ordered his ruined fortresses, &c., on the Rhine, to be repaired by British artificers, whom he considered superior to the Gauls.

326. Octavius, king of the Britons, rebelling against the Romans, was demanded by the Roman general to be given up as a rebel, but he, courting the assistance of *Fincmark*, king of Scotland, gave battle to the Romans, who were

326.-515.

defeated. The city of York was taken by the Scots, and Octavius was there crowned king of *All Britain*.

347. The Bishops of York and London attended the Council of Arles.

440. At this time the Romans could no longer defend their own native country against the nations in the north of Europe. They withdrew their soldiers and left the people to govern themselves. As soon as the Romans had left, the Caledonians from the north, poured in upon the Britons, and despoiled them of their lives and goods. The Britons called in as protectors, the Saxons, a warlike people who lived in the north of Germany, and the Jutes and Angles who inhabited Denmark. In the year 450 the Saxons landed in the isle of Thanet to the number of 1,600 men, and did at first protect, and fight for the Britons. Having once however acquired a footing in the island they threw off the mask, and proceeded to make it an object of conquest. They drove the Britons into Wales. In course of time so completely was the population changed and saxonised, that, excepting in the names of some of the hills and rivers, the British language was extinguished, and even the name of the country was altered to Angle-land, or England, a term taken from the Angles.

448. York at this period partook largely in the vicissitudes to which the island was exposed. The Picts and the Scots, the Saxons and the Danes, each in succession, erected their standards before its gate; yet still it was the seat of trade and letters.

458. A great storm was experienced at York, which blew down several houses, and killed many persons.

466. Hengist was slain at Conisbrough by the Britons, under their king Ambrosius, who summoned all the princes and nobility to appear at York. *Octa* and *Eosa*, the two sons of Hengist, surrendered to the victor, but in 490, when *Uter* succeeded his brother Ambrosius; they revolted, and invested York, where the British king defeated them. The Christian church, which had been suppressed by the Saxons, was restored by Ambrosius before his death.

485. Vortigern being pursued by Ambrosius as an enemy to his country fled to a castle in Wales, where he was besieged; the castle took fire and was burnt to the ground, and the unhappy Vortigern perished in the flames.

508. Gregory the Great sent Augustine with forty missionaries into Kent, to convert the people to Christianity.

515. This winter was so intensely cold, that the wildest birds allowed themselves to be taken by the hand.

The following places, so familiar to the people of Leeds, are mostly derived from the language of our Anglo-Saxon ancestors. Leeds is supposed by Thoresby to be derived from the British *cair loid coil*, a town in the wood; by Bede from the first Saxon possessor named *Loidi*, others suppose it to be derived from our German ancestors, as there is a town called Leeds, on the river Dender in Austria Flanders, near which is the village of Holbeck. Briggate, the *Bridge-gate*,—Kirkgate, the *Church-gate*,—Swinegate, so called from leading to a beck or stream where those animals were washed. *Boar-lane* had probably a similar derivation.

ALLERTON	-----	<i>Alder</i> , a tree, and <i>ton</i> town.
ARMLEY	-----	<i>Arm</i> or <i>Orm</i> , a proper name, and <i>ley</i> , field.
BEESTON	-----	<i>Bede</i> , a proper name, and <i>ton</i> , town.
BRAMLEY	-----	<i>Bram</i> or <i>Bramble</i> , a wild shrub, and <i>ley</i> , field.
BURLEY	-----	<i>Bar</i> , a tree, and <i>ley</i> , field.
COLDCOATES	-----	<i>Cold</i> , and <i>cotes</i> , houses.
COTTINGLEY	-----	<i>Cot</i> , house, <i>ing</i> , meadow, and <i>ley</i> , field.
FARNLEY	-----	<i>Fern</i> , a wild plant, and <i>ley</i> , field.
FARSLEY	-----	<i>Furze</i> , a wild plant, and <i>ley</i> , field.
GLEDHOW	-----	<i>Gled</i> , hawk, and <i>how</i> , hill.
GIPION	-----	<i>Gip</i> , a proper name, and <i>ton</i> , town.
HEADINGLEY	-----	<i>Heath</i> , moor, <i>ing</i> , meadow, and <i>ley</i> , field.
HOLBECK	-----	<i>Hol</i> , a low place, and <i>beck</i> , stream.
HUNSLET	-----	<i>Hounde</i> , hound, and <i>leet</i> , a meeting.
KIRKSTALL	-----	<i>Kirk</i> , church, and <i>stall</i> , place.
KNOWSTHORPE	-----	<i>Knowl</i> , the brow of a hill, and <i>thorpe</i> , village.
MEANWOOD	-----	<i>Mense</i> , in common, and <i>wood</i> .
OSMUNDTHORPE	-----	<i>Osmund</i> , a proper name, and <i>thorpe</i> , village.
POTTERNEWTON	-----	<i>New-town</i> , near the <i>pottery</i> .
RODLEY	-----	<i>Rood</i> , a cross, and <i>ley</i> , field.
SKELTON	-----	<i>Skel</i> , water, and <i>ton</i> , town.
STANNINGLEY	-----	<i>Stan</i> , stone, <i>ing</i> , meadow, and <i>ley</i> , field.
SWINNOW	-----	<i>Swin</i> , swine, and <i>how</i> , hill.
WEETWOOD	-----	<i>Weet</i> , wet, or marshy, and <i>wood</i> .
WORTLEY	-----	<i>Wort</i> , a wild plant, and <i>ley</i> , field.

At a place in Armley formerly called *Giant's-hill*, was an extensive earthwork described by Thoresby as being thrown up and used by the Danes, as a fort, or place of security, whence they might issue at leisure to lay waste and plunder the surrounding country. It must have been a very strong and advantageous post, the northern side thereof being defended by a high and precipitous hill, at the foot of which ran the river Aire; like the other camps of this people, it was of circular form, measuring twenty perches in circumference; the rampart being about eighteen or twenty feet high.



516.-627.

516. The computing of time by the Christian æra, was in use at this time, and was applied to historical events in 784.

520. King Arthur, the most celebrated of all the British monarchs, expelled the Saxons from York, and almost from the kingdom, by the sanguinary battle of Baden Hills, (521) in which 90,000 of the enemy were slain. Being determined to destroy the ancient seat of enmity, he prepared for an expedition against Scotland, but was dissuaded from his purpose by the bishops, who represented to him that the Scots had just received the gospel, and that in the true spirit of religion which he professed, "Christians ought not to spill the blood of Christians." This great monarch and his clergy, with the nobility and the soldiers, kept their Christmas at York, being the first festival of the kind ever celebrated in Britain. Arthur was slain by the hands of his own nephew, in 542; and the Saxons soon afterwards prevailed.

547. Ida and Ella, two Anglo-Saxons, having landed at Flamborough, and subdued the Britons, the former assumed the sovereignty of *Bernicia*, extending from the Tyne to Edinburgh Frith; and the latter became king of *Deiri*, of which York was the capital, as it was afterwards of *Northumbria*, which included all the six northern counties of England, and formed the largest of the seven kingdoms of the Saxon Heptarchy, and received, during the reign of Edwin, tribute from the rest.

593. Ethelfrid, having ascended the Bernician throne, expelled his infant brother-in-law Edwin from Deiri, and became the first king of Northumberland, which, however, was several times divided under two petty monarchs, and as often united under one.

620. In this year Barwick-in-Elmet, near Leeds, was ruled by a British king named Cereticus, and was conquered by Edwin, king of Northumbria.

627. A small oratory of wood was erected on the site of the present cathedral at York, and dedicated to St. Peter. On Easter day, in the same year, Edwin, king of Northumbria, with his two sons and a number of nobles, were solemnly baptized in that primitive Christian place of worship which soon gave place to a more magnificent fabric, under the auspices of the newly converted monarch, who had previously raised Paulinus, a Roman missionary, to the dignity of archbishop of York. In the same year, this Paulinus (commonly called the Northumbrian apostle) erected a cross as a point of assembly for divine worship at



633.-655.

Dewsbury. A fac-simile of this cross bears the inscription "*Pavlinvs hic prædicavit, et celebravit*"

633. Edwin, king of Northumbria, slain in a most sanguinary battle, fought against Penda, king of Mercia, and Cadwallader, the British king of Wales, at the village of Hatfield, seven miles from Doncaster. His head was buried in the porch of his own church of St. Gregory at York, but the rest of his remains were deposited in the monastery at Whitby.

634. After Edwin and his only son were slain, near Doncaster, the victors ravaged Yorkshire, in a most dreadful manner. Osric, one of the nearest relations of Edwin, immediately ventured to besiege York, then in possession of Cadwallader, the Welsh king : who, sallying out defeated his forces and slew Osric. Eanfrid, Osric's brother, hastened to York, to treat for peace ; instead of obtaining which, he was cruelly and treacherously put to death by Cadwallader, who himself died in this year.—During the reign of Edwin, he ordered stakes to be fixed on the highways, where he had seen clear springs, and brazen dishes were chained to them, to refresh the thirsty traveller.

642. After Penda had slain Oswald, king of Northumbria, he marched his army northward, and besides committing other spoliation, almost destroyed the newly erected cathedral of York.

655. The hoary-headed *Penda, king of Mercia*, who had so long evinced the most inveterate enmity against the Northumbrians, hastened (in the eightieth year of his age) with his veterans against Oswy, who now held the sovereignty of Bernicia, as he did afterwards of the rest of Northumbria, called Deiri. To meet this pagan foe, who, on the verge of the grave, continued to court the smiles of Woden, Oswy advanced with his warriors to Winmoor, near Seacroft, in the neighbourhood of Leeds, where the two armies engaged in bloody conflict, in which the Northumbrian Christians defeated and nearly destroyed the Pagans, who were much more numerous than themselves, and left the haughty Penda with thirty of his officers dead on the field. The conquering Oswy, pursuing his victorious career, subdued the kingdom of Mercia, and having prevailed with Peada, the son of Penda, to become a Christian, he gave him the government of the southern part of Mercia, bounded by the Trent, but he was soon afterwards murdered by his wife, and the Mercians, revolting, threw off the Northumbrian yoke. Before the battle of Winmoor, Osweo, or Oswy, made a vow, that if he gained the battle, and

655.-741.

became victorious, his infant daughter should be consecrated to religious duties, and lead a life of celibacy. She was committed to the care of St. Hilda, Abbess of Whitby, whom she succeeded.

664. On the death of Aldewald, king of Deiri, Oswy became sole monarch of Northumbria, over which he reigned till his death in 670.

665. Venerable Bede, (of Jarrow,) the historian, born. He mentions Leeds, styling it "*Loidis*."

674. The art of *glass-making*, and a taste for ecclesiastical magnificence was introduced into Northumbria, by Benedict Biscop, who built Wearmouth Abbey, with stone, after the Roman style of architecture, having brought workmen from the continent for that purpose. York Cathedral, which had been nearly destroyed by Penda, was now restored by Archbishop Wilfrid.

679. *Egfrid*, who had now become king of all Northumbria, in which the county of York was included, endeavoured to preserve and enlarge his dominions. He repulsed with great slaughter an invasion of the Picts, and in the same year invaded Mercia. An action took place on the banks of the Trent, but the interposition of Theodorus, archbishop of York, prevented the further effusion of blood.

700. In this year there was no fewer than fifteen kings or chiefs within the island, while Ireland was nearly in the same situation.

709. Died *Wilfrid*, archbishop of York. He was of an obscure family, but possessed great genius; was the 3rd archbishop of that Province, succeeding Chadha in 669. He resigned the mitre in 678, but was restored in 686, after which he was expelled in 698. He founded Ripon monastery, where he was buried.—*Ina*, king of Wessex, published about this time his laws of the Saxons, soon after which he laid on the tax of "Peter Pence" for the support of a college at Rome.

731. *Alcuinus*, who was keeper of the noble library at York, founded by Archbishop Egbert, speaks of it in several of his letters, as one of the most choice and valuable collections of books then in the world. "Oh! that I had," says he in a letter to the emperor Charlemagne, "the use of those admirable books on all parts of learning, which I enjoyed in my native country, collected by the industry of my beloved master Egbert."

741. *York Cathedral* suffered so much by fire this year, that Archbishop Egbert, assisted by Albert, a learned native, took it entirely down. Albert, who was promoted to the

741.-867.

see in 767, assisted by Alcuinus, Egbert's librarian, and Eanbald, who succeeded Albert, rebuilt it in the most magnificent style.

759. Eadbert, king of Northumbria, having, since he ascended the throne in 737, roused his subjects from their lethargic stupor, quelled their petty factions, and subdued their enemies, resigned his sceptre to his son Oswulfe, and retired to a monastery at York; thus, like seven of his predecessors, resigning the crown for the cowl. His son was slain in the first year of his reign; for some time after which, Northumbria was agitated with factions, usurpers, and dissolute monarchs.——A dreadful fire broke out at *Doncaster*, by which not only the castle, but the whole town was reduced to ashes. The castle was never after re-built.

781. Nov. 8. Died Albert, archbishop of York, ten days after the consecration of the Cathedral, which he was the principal means of re-building. He also added greatly to the valuable library that Egbert had founded, especially such books as he had procured in his travels abroad in his younger days.

792. Ethelred, whose vicious and treacherous propensities had driven him from the throne in the 5th year of his reign, now returned from his twelve years' exile, and being again invested with the sceptre of Northumbria by the voice of the people, he decoyed the two children of Alfwold from the sanctuary at York, and murdered them to prevent their setting up any claim to the throne, which during his exile had been some time occupied by their father, who was treacherously killed by Siga, a nobleman retained about his person.

800. The Saxon Heptarchy, (or seven kingdoms) prevailed from 585 to 800, when Egbert king of Wessex, acquired a paramount influence over the other states, which he reduced to one common jurisdiction, and became the first king of England, to the throne of which his descendants succeeded in the male line to Edward the Confessor.

854. St. Swithin (the weeping saint) Bishop of Winchester, and an English martyr, died this year.

867. A dreadful battle fought near York, between Osbert, who had been raised to the throne of Northumbria, and the two Danish generals and brothers, Hinguar and Hubba, which terminated in favour of the invaders—Osbert being slain in the retreat with a great number of men. Asser Menevensis thus describes the sufferings of the inhabitants of York on this occasion:—"By the general's cruel orders

867-936.

they knocked down all the boys, young and old men, they met with in the city, and cut their throats. Matrons and virgins were ravished at pleasure. The husband and wife, either dead or dying, were tossed together; the infant, snatched from its mother's breast, was carried to the threshold, and there left butchered at its parent's door, to make the general outcry more hideous."

871. Alfred the grandson of Egbert began to reign in this year. At this time the Danes, a nation of pirates and heathens committed such dreadful ravages on the shores of Britain, that for some time they completely overturned the sovereignty of Alfred and he was compelled to live in obscurity in the centre of a marsh. He at length regained the greater part of his kingdom, and spent the rest of his life in literary study, of which he was very fond, and in forming laws and regulations for the good of his people. He was an excellent historian, understood music, and acknowledged to be the best Saxon poet of the age, leaving many works behind him. He was perhaps, the most able, most virtuous, and most popular prince that ever reigned in Britain; and all this is the more surprising when we find that his predecessors and successors for many ages were extremely cruel, and ignorant. He died in the year 901, in the 53rd year of his age.

872. The Danes in their ravaging excursions, fired the city of York———The first mention of Clocks occurs at this period. Sun dials had been in use long before.

936. *King Athelstan*, on his expedition to Scotland, visited York, where he requested the benefit of devout prayers from the citizens on his behalf, promising that if he succeeded well therein he would abundantly recompense them. He did succeed—returned to York, and in the minster offered thanks to God and St. Peter. He also granted to God, St. Peter, and a fraternity called Colledgei, and their successors, for ever, one thrave of corn out of every caracute of land, or every ploughing within the bishopric of York. He also gave them a piece of waste ground, which, with the income of corn, called Peter corn, enabled them to found for themselves an hospital in the city. William the Conqueror confirmed the thraves to them; William Rufus removed the site of the hospital into the precincts of the royal palace, and built them a small church; Henry I. granted to them the enlargement of the close in which their house was situated; confirmed to the hospital certain lands; freed them from gelds and customs, and granted to them many

936.-1002.

other privileges, besides taking to himself the name of a brother and warden of this hospital.

937. Anlaff, a Dane, entered the Humber with a fleet of 615 sail, whilst Athelstan was absent; he landed his forces and marched to York before the king was advised of this invasion. On hearing that Athelstan was approaching the city, the confederate princes, Irish, Scotch, and Welsh, went out to meet him, when a bloody engagement took place at Bromford, where the king gained a complete victory, slaying Constantine, king of Scotland, six petty kings of Ireland and Wales, and twelve general officers; and destroyed their whole army. He then proceeded to York, and razed the castle to the ground, in order to prevent future rebellion.

948. King Edred destroyed Ripon by a general conflagration.

955. Dec. 26. Died Wulstan, archbishop of York, who, for espousing the cause of Anlaff, the Danish king of Northumbria, against Edred, the king of England, was by him committed to prison, but was soon released and restored to his office,

981. London was burnt down by accident.

991. This year the winter continued so long, and with such intensity, that vegetation was suspended or totally destroyed by the frost. The crops failed on the continent, as well as in England, and famine and pestilence closed the year.—The figures in Arithmetic brought into Europe by the Saracens from Arabia.

1000. Early in the beginning of the 11th century, Selet the shepherd, wandered from the south, pursuant to his visions, and fixed his hermitage at Kirkstall, where an Abbey was afterwards built.

1002. November 13th was the day on which king Ethelred II. secretly ordered all the Danes to be massacred, and great was the slaughter committed in the southern parts of England; but in Northumbria the Danes were too numerously intermingled with the Saxons to be sentenced to assassination, and the detestable act so much inflamed them, that in a little time the Anglo-Saxons became the sport of their indignant enemies, and in 1010 Sweyn, king of Denmark, successfully undertook the conquest of England with a powerful army, which, after lying in camp on the banks of the Ouse, was engaged near York by the English, strengthened by a number of Scots. The battle was bloody and well contested, but victory declared for the Danes, and subsequently Ethelred with a few of his followers seized a boat and fled to Normandy, leaving his

1002.-1066.

crown and kingdom to the conquerors. The Danish viceroys, or *Comites Northumbriæ*, fixed their residence at York, where their sovereigns occasionally dwelt amongst them, till 1041, when the Saxons again succeeded to the throne, but were soon afterwards dispossessed by the Normans.

1005. All the old churches were re-built about this time in a "new style" of architecture.

1015. Children were forbidden by law to be sold by their parents in England.

1060. Dec. 22. Died *Kinsius*, archbishop of York. He was a man of such austere habits that, for the most part, he walked bare-foot in his visitations.

1065. Jan. 5th. Died Edward the Confessor. He collected the laws made by his predecessors into one code, and called it the Common Law of England.

1066. Harfager, king of Norway, at the instance of Tosti, Earl of Northumberland, entered the Humber with a numerous army, and sailed up the river as far as Riccall, within ten miles of York, which city they took by storm after a battle fought at Fulford. On the 23rd September, Harold, king of England, with a strong body of forces, met the invaders at Stamford Bridge where Tosti and the Norwegian king were both slain; but Harold did not long enjoy his triumph, for, on the following day he was informed by an express, as he sat in state at a magnificent entertainment in York, that William, Duke of Normandy, (whom Edward, the late king, had nominated as his successor) had landed at Pevensey, in Sussex. Harold immediately marched to meet the invaders, whom he encountered at *Hastings*, on the 14th of October, when he lost both his life and his crown, with 60,000 men. One of the chroniclers of the Norman conquest, says, that weapons of stone were used by some of the Anglo-Saxon troops at the battle of Hastings.

Numerous rude implements of various kinds have from time to time been discovered at Flambro', Bridlington, and other places, clearly belonging to this period of English history. They are made of chipped flint, among which the most common are arrow-heads, and heads of spears or javelins, knives, chisels, &c., fish-hooks, so delicately formed that we cannot but feel astonished at the labour it must have required to chip them out of a piece of flint.

*William the Conqueror*, having established himself on the throne, dispossessed the English of their estates and offices of trust, and gave them to his numerous followers. The barony of Pontefract he gave to Ilbert de Laci, who built Pontefract castle. After so great an agitation as that produced by the Norman conquest, some years necessarily elapsed before

1066.-1081.

the country could be restored to harmony; and the inhabitants of the north of England, still cherishing their wonted spirit of independence and liberty, were amongst the last to bow their necks to the Norman yoke; a violent struggle was made against the proud Conqueror, and York was the rallying point of the patriot army, but in 1067, William marched into that city, and garrisoned it with Norman soldiers, the Saxon nobles having fled into Scotland, where they were joined by king Malcolm, as they were also by the Danes in 1069, when they with their allies attacked York, where they put 3,000 Normans to the sword. Though William soon arrived before the city, and bribed the Danes to leave the country, the English gallantly defended the city about six months, and were only compelled by famine to surrender under stipulations which the Conqueror immediately violated, and butchered nearly all the nobility and gentry, and laid waste all the country from York to Durham. The inhabitants set fire to the suburbs, and the flames extended to the city and cathedral, and involved all in one common ruin. The valiant Waltheof, Earl of Northumberland, and governor of York, suffered by the hands of the executioner, and is mentioned as the first example of beheading in England. Those of the inhabitants, who now escaped the edge of the sword, were reserved for a more deplorable fate, being hunted by the Normans, and "obliged to eat horses, dogs, cats, and even their own species, to preserve their miserable lives." Aldred, the last Saxon archbishop of York, performed the religious ceremony at the coronation of William the Conqueror, and is said to have retained his rank by bribes.

1070. Henry the I., the youngest son of William the Conqueror, was born at Selby. He was crowned by Maurice, bishop of London, at Westminster, Aug. 5th, 1100.

Knaresborough castle was founded by Serlo de Burgh, who came into England with the Conqueror. He was succeeded in his possessions by Eustace Fitz John, the great favourite of Henry I.

1080. Leeds, Holbeck, and Woodhouse were given by the Conqueror to Ilbert de Laci. Leeds was then only a farming village, with an estimated population of somewhat less than 300, and not more than 900 in the whole parish, including a priest, a church, and a mill.

The circumference of the borough of Leeds is 32 miles and one furlong, and its superficial contents are 21,470 acres and nine perches.

1081. The *Doomsday Book*, containing an exact account



1081.

of all the landed property in England, was now finished after a labour of six years.

**THE CASTLE OF LEEDS.**—It is probable that the Castle of Leeds was erected about this time by the De Lacies of Pontefract. It occupied the site at present surrounded by Mill-hill, Bishopgate, and the western part of Boar-lane. It was in all probability surrounded by a moat, and an extensive park, as we may gather from the names Park-row, Park-square, &c.—

In excavating for the foundations of the warehouses on the south side of West-bar, (in 1836), the workmen employed by J. Kendall, Esq., discovered the remains of the Castle Moat. It appeared to have had a semicircular form, and to have terminated in the Mill Goit, extending considerably on each side of Scarborough's Hotel, on which site the castle is supposed to have stood.

A tower also stood near Lydgate, in Woodhouse-lane, called Tower Hill; which was probably connected with the castle; but not a vestige of either fabric remains.

**THE LEEDS PARISH CHURCH**, (St. Peter's), is mentioned in Domesday Book, and was therefore in existence at a very early period.

On taking down the old Parish Church of Leeds, in 1838, a most interesting discovery was made of several sculptured stone *Crosses* of the Anglo-Saxon period. The largest cross was thirteen feet in height; the others were less, and broken into fragments. One of the crosses contained in Runic characters the name of a king. The inscription was *Cuni Onlaf*: that is, king Onlaf. Onlaf the Dane entered the Humber in 937, and subsequently became king of Northumbria, and a christian. His residence was probably the "Villa Regia" at Osmundthorpe, and this cross was no doubt erected to his memory in the cemetery of the Leeds Parish Church, about the year 950. Ancient fragments were discovered of the Norman Church of Leeds; not the one mentioned in the Domesday Survey, but the church renewed about the latter end of the 11th, or the commencement of the 12th century. Behind the altar piece was a mural monument to the memory of a family named Hardewycke, of the 16th century, and in taking up the floor under the communion table, a tablet was found in excellent preservation, containing a brass plate inscribed to the memory of Thomas Darrell, Vicar of Leeds, who was a benefactor to the church and died in 1469. On taking up the floor of the choir, a fine effigy was discovered in chain mail with plate knee caps, sword and shield, beautifully carved in limestone, the coat of arms or quarterings of the shield denoting the knight to have been of the family of Stainton or Steynton. The legs had been broken off close under the knee. This effigy is cross-legged, and cannot be later than Edward the II's time, or about the year 1300. In the succeeding reign, Elizabeth Stainton was prioress of Kirkstall, and probably of the same family.

The Chapel at Holbeck was probably founded about



1081.-1108.

the same period. It was given by Ralph Paganell, along with the Church at Leeds, to the priory of the Holy Trinity at York. It is now demolished, but the site is shown by a stone obelisk in the burial ground attached to the new erection.

The Chapel of St. Helen at Holbeck, is supposed to have stood near to Sheepbridge, with which, and a medicinal well, formerly in the neighbourhood, it may have been connected, but no remains exist.

The Chapel of St. Mary the Virgin, at Beeston, is believed to have been erected at a very early period. It has been rebuilt, and its only remains of antiquity, are:—the east window, apparently of the time of Henry III., surmounted by the crowned monogram of the virgin, and some fragments of stained glass, consisting of a head of our Saviour, and another of the virgin, a mutilated figure of a saint, and the arms of the families of Beeston, Mauleverer, and Nevile, all of which are also much mutilated.

1088. William Rufus commenced the building of St. Mary's Abbey, in York, which was afterwards destroyed by fire, and rebuilt from 1270 to 1292, by Simon de Warwick, the Abbot.

1089. The advowson of the *Church of Leeds* and the *Chapel of Holbeck*, was given to the Priory of Holy Trinity at York, by Ralph Paganell, who was a follower of William the Conqueror.

1090. *Skipton Castle*, built by Robert de Romille, who also founded the original church, dedicated to the Holy Trinity. In the civil wars, this place was garrisoned for king Charles I., the command devolving on Sir John Malory, of Studley. It was surrendered December 20th, 1645, having held out longer than any other castle in the north of England. The castle chapel was in existence subsequent to the death of Thomas, Earl of Thanet. The Clifford family have, with only one exception of attainder, held the barony 500 years.

1098. The river Aire was made navigable this year at Kirkstall Bridge.

1100. Nov. 18. Died Thomas, archbishop of York. He was a Norman by birth, and succeeded Aldred, the last of the Saxon race of archbishops of that diocese. Thomas died at Ripon, but was interred at York minster. It was during the time he held this see, that the long contested point, whether the see of Canterbury or York should have pre-eminence, was determined in favour of the former.

1108. May 21. Died Gerrard, archbishop of York, who

1108.-1137.

was interred in the minster. He sustained the dignity eight years, part of which time, he, like Thurston and Thomas, the Norman, refused obedience to Canterbury.

1115. *Henry 1st*, the third son of the Conqueror gave the manors of Conisburgh, Thornes, and Wakefield, and the lordship of Normanton, to William de Placitis, Earl of Warren and Surrey.

1118. The Order of Knights Templars instituted—extinguished March 22nd, 1312.

1120. About this date the lordship of Bingley was possessed by W. Paganell, founder of the Priory of Drax; his successors were the Gaunts, one of whom obtained a charter for a market from king John, in the twelfth year of that monarch's reign. In the time of Dodsworth, (1621), there was a park at Bingley, and a castle near the church at Bailey-hill, of which little more than the name and tradition now remain. The church dedicated to All Saints or All Souls, was re-built *Temp.* Henry VIII. The free grammar school was founded 20th of the same reign, and is now of the annual value of £400. By a decree of the Lord Chancellor in 1820, it was determined that the *learned languages* should be taught at the free grammar school, for the benefit of the children of the parish of Bingley.

1121. *Embsay Priory*, afterwards removed to Bolton, where it is still magnificent in ruins, was this year founded by William de Meschiens and his wife Cecilia de Romille, baroness of Skipton. Its original site was near the place called the *Strid*, where their son had been drowned in the river Wharfe.

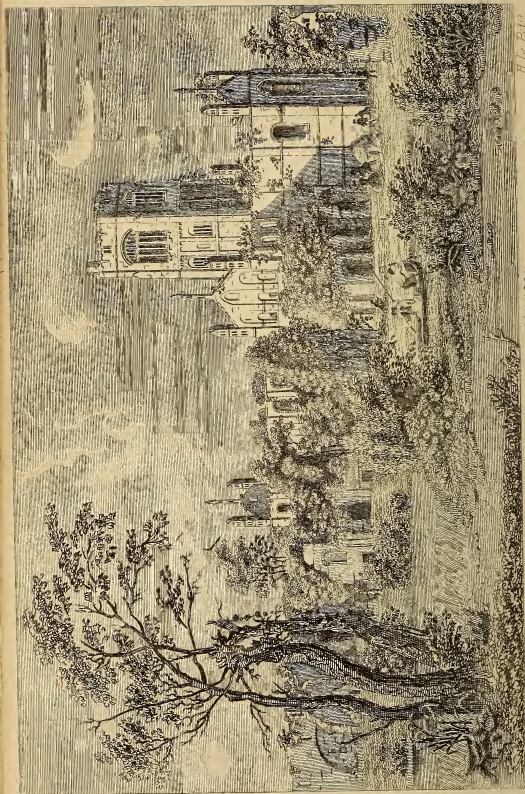
1126. About this period died *Alured* of Beverley, a celebrated divine and historian—he wrote "*The Annals*" of the British, Saxon, and Norman eras.

1132. Fountains Abbey, in Studley Park, near Ripon, was built, and spread, with its appendages, over 12 acres of ground, two of which are occupied by the present magnificent and picturesque ruins. It was surrendered in 1537.

1133. Eustace Fitz John sent a basket of bread from Knaresborough castle, when the monks of Fountains Abbey were in distress for want of food.

1137. A casual fire broke out in the city of York, and burnt down the cathedral, St. Mary's Abbey, and forty churches. This dreadful fire was scarcely extinguished, when the Scots under David their king, entered England, in support of his niece Matilda, and laid the country waste to the very gates of York. Thurstan, archbishop of York, assembled the neighbouring barons, and promised the ab-





PUBLISHED BY JOSEPH JOHNSON.

Engraved by

H. P. 13

210, Old St. 11, London, W.C.

1137.-1147.

solution of sins to all who should fall in the war against these invaders. A tall mast, having at the top a *pix* and a cross, from which were suspended the banners of St. Peter, St. John of Beverley, and St. Wilfred, was fixed in a huge chariot, and taken into the field of battle, which so excited the soldiers, that the enemy was totally routed with the loss of 10,000 men. This was the celebrated *Battle of the Standard*, fought Aug. 23rd, 1138, on Cowton moor, near Northallerton, the place is still called Standard Hill, and the holes in which the dead were thrown, the Scots Pits.

1139. Feb. 5th. Died at Pontefract, where he had retired in his old age, *Thurston*, *archbishop of York*, which elevated station he filled twenty years. He was inflexible in not submitting to the archbishop of Canterbury, and was buried at Pontefract.——In this year Leeds castle was besieged and taken by king Stephen, in his march against the Scots.

1140. Adel church is supposed to have been erected about this time. It is a most interesting and venerable structure of Norman design, and one of the most perfect specimens of the kind in the kingdom. The south door-way is highly enriched, and many of its details of great elegance. The interior is adorned with very curious ancient sculpture. The east window is filled with stained glass of a monumental character, by Giles, dated 1601. There are three paintings by Vanderbank, representing *The Crucifixion*, *The Ascension*, and *The Agony in the Garden*. The village of Adel is termed *Adhill* in the *Liber Regis*, which, probably, gives the true etymology, the Hill of Ada, the first Saxon colonist of the place. On the slope of the hill, a little north of the village, are the remains of a Roman Camp, where a number of ancient monuments, three altars, (one inscribed "to the goddess Brigantia"), several urns, statues, coins, &c., have been found, many of which are deposited at the vicarage, and others are in the possession of Captain Chamberlain, of Bramhope.

1147. Kirkstall Abbey was founded between 1147 and 1153, by Henry de Lacie, baron of Pontefract, for monks of the Cistercian order. It had from its foundation to its dissolution in the year 1540, a succession of twenty-seven abbots, and was attended with various vicissitudes of fortune. The abbey was prosperous and opulent under the superintendence of some of its abbots, and under that of others its affairs were in such a deplorable condition that the monks had to solicit through their patron Henry de Lacie, the interposition of the king, (Ed. I.) to prevent its

1147.-1154.

ruin by the creditors who became impatient for the payment of their debts. The live stock on the estates of the abbey in 1301, were: draught oxen 216, cows 160, yearlings and bullocks 152, calves 90, sheep and lambs 4,000. In 1539 all monasteries in England were dissolved by act of parliament. Kirkstall Abbey was then surrendered to the crown, (Henry VIII.) Its revenues are said to have been at the dissolution, of the value of £8,000 to £10,000 per annum, and this was exclusive of the value of the cattle, corn, plate, &c., on the estates. The buildings were soon a mass of ruins. The roof was taken from the church, the bells from the tower, and the lead and timber from the other buildings, and all were sold for the benefit of the crown. In 1583 it seems to have been used as a sort of quarry for building materials, for in an entry in the churchwarden's books of Leeds at this date it is said that a number of labourers were employed at sixpence a day in removing the materials of "Christall Abbye," to assist in the erection of edifices in that town. The site of the abbey and some of the adjoining estates, were granted by Henry VIII., to archbishop Cranmer, in exchange for other lands, and were by him settled upon Peter Hammond, in trust for his younger son. The estates must have subsequently passed to the crown; for in the 26th of Elizabeth, they were granted by the Queen to Edmund Downynge and Peter Asheton, and their heirs for ever. At a later period, but at what precise time has not been ascertained, the site and demesnes with the manor of Bramley, were purchased by the Savilles of Howley, and then passed by marriage, through the Duke of Montagu to the Brudenells, Earls of Cardigan, in whose possession they still remain. These ruins form the most beautiful object in this district, and are now happily preserved with great care.

1150. The practice of deciding legal claims by the sword, and of hiring champions for that purpose, was common in England at this time and long after.

1153. Oct. 14. Died Henry Murdac, archbishop of York, who was never permitted to enter the minster during his life, in consequence of having quarrelled with king Stephen, whose part the canons and citizens warmly espoused. He was interred in York minster.

1154. On the 25th day of October this year king Stephen died. The Saxon chronicler says:—"In this king's time, all was dissension, and evil, and rapine. Against him soon rose the rich men. They had sworn oaths, but no truth maintained. They built castles which they held out against



1154.-1181.

him. They cruelly oppressed the wretched men of the land with castle-work. They filled the castles with devils and evil men. They seized those whom they supposed to have any goods, and threw them into prison for their gold and silver, and inflicted on them unutterable tortures. Some they hanged up by the feet, and smoked with foul smoke; some by the thumbs or by the beard, and hung coats of mail on their feet. They put them into dungeons with adders, and snakes, and toads. They burned all the towns—thou mightest go a day's journey and not find a man sitting in a town, nor an acre of land tilled. Wretched men starved of hunger:—to till the ground was to plough the sea."

1159. Died at Rome, Pope Adrian IV., the only Englishman who filled the papal chair. Adrian's name was Nicholas Breakspear. He was choked by a fly in the fifth year of his pontificate.

1160. The first parliament mentioned in history by that name, was held in York by Henry II., when Malcolm, king of Scotland, appeared to do homage for the territories he held under the king of England.

1170. The four knights who murdered Thomas-a-Becket took refuge in Knaresborough castle, where they remained prisoners many months, but were subsequently pardoned on condition of their performing a pilgrimage to Jerusalem.—At *Hampale*, two miles S.W. of Robin Hood's well, near Doncaster, William de Clairfac, and Avicia, his wife, founded a priory of Cistercian nuns, which at the dissolution was granted to Francis Aislabie.

1171. The choir of the cathedral at York re-built by Archbishop Roger.

1174. Henry II. resolved to do penance at the shrine of St. Thomas of Canterbury. As soon as he came within sight of the church of Canterbury, he alighted from his horse, walked barefoot to the town, prostrated himself before the shrine of the saint, and allowed himself to be scourged. He passed the whole day and night fasting on the bare stones.—A convention of bishops and barons was held at York, where William, the successor of Malcolm, did homage to king Henry for the whole kingdom of Scotland. In token of his subjection, he deposited on the altar of St. Peter, his spear, breast-plate, and saddle.

1176. The dispensing of justice by circuits first established in England.

1181. The laws of England digested about this time by Glanville.—A Preceptory of KNIGHTS TEMPLARS was

1181.-1190.

established at Temple Newsam as early as this year, the manor having been presented to that order by William de Villiers. These knights, who afterwards sunk to the lowest state of depravity, were established in the early part of the twelfth century, by Baldwin II., king of Jerusalem, for the defence of the Holy Sepulchre, and the protection of christian pilgrims.

1182. *Ralph Hageh*, succeeded Alexander as abbot of Kirkstall, and was reputed a religious man, renowned for sanctity, a lover of justice, and a most zealous upholder of his order; but he followed the dictates of an ambitious disposition, and forgot that poverty was ill calculated to support extravagance.

1186. *Paulinus de Leedes* refused the see of Carlisle, though Henry II. offered to augment its revenues 300 marks annual rent. About this time Henry, under pretence of raising money for the holy wars, imposed upon his subjects a contribution of one-tenth of their moveables, and demanded from the city of York half the sum that he required from London, York being then eminent for trade.

1189. This year Richard I. commenced his reign.

Coats of arms were not in use in England until this time, the custom being derived from the Crusades.

1190. PERSECUTION OF THE JEWS.—Richard I., the day previous to his coronation, issued a proclamation forbidding Jews to be present at Westminster, lest he might suffer by their magical arts. But his command was disobeyed. A few of them, "eager to offer to a new ruler the gifts and congratulations of an afflicted people in a strange land, on a day of general grace and joy, according to the immemorial usage of the East, forced their way into the hall with the rest of the people, and were permitted to lay their presents before him, with their humble suit for the continuance of that connivance of their residence, and of that precarious exemption from plunder and slaughter, which they had obtained from his predecessors." As soon as it was discovered that they were present in the hall, the people attacked them without reserve or distinction, beat and pillaged and drove them out. The example of this violence at court spread through the city; and, believing that the king had ordered the extermination of this hated people, the inhabitants treated them with crushing severity. They forced their way into their houses; first plundered, and then put to death their possessors. Those who barricaded their dwellings were burnt to death; the feeble, the sick, and the dying, were thrown into the



1190.-1201.

fires which had been kindled in the streets. The example of the metropolis was followed in many of the principal towns of England. At York, the Jews took refuge in the castle; but unable to defend themselves, they shared the same or rather a worse fate than their brethren in the capital. The castle was besieged for several days. On the night before the expected assault, a rabbi, lately arrived from the Hebrew schools abroad, addressed his assembled countrymen in these words:—"Men of Israel! God commands us to die for his law, as our glorious forefathers have done in all ages. If we fall into the hands of our enemies they may cruelly torment us. That life which our Creator gave us, let us return to him willingly and devoutly with our own hands." No sooner had the rabbi finished, than the men murdered their wives and children, threw the dead bodies over the walls upon the populace; set fire to the building, and perished in the flames. It is said that nearly 2000 Jews in York alone fell victims to this sanguinary persecution.

1192. Geoffrey Plantagenet, archbishop of York, gave the *nunnery of St. Clement* to the abbey of Godstowe. Alicia, then prioress, refusing to obey the order, went to Rome to appeal to the Pope, regardless of which the archbishop excommunicated the whole sisterhood.

1198. It was agreed between the monks of Kirkstall and the church of Addle, that the former should pay the latter £1 per annum, in lieu of tithes in the parish of Addle.

1199, King John and the monarch of Scotland, with their nobles, held a convention at York, and it was agreed that John's two sons should marry the Scotch king's two daughters.

1200. That great discovery, so highly interesting to this and all other maritime countries, the use of the *Magnetic Needle*, was made this year, and was improved and brought into general use in 1302, by *Givria* of Naples.

1201. This year Eustace, abbot of Hay, in Normandy, came to England, and preached the duty of extending the Sabbath from three o'clock on Saturday afternoon, to sunrise on Monday morning, pleading the authority of an epistle written by Christ himself, and found on the altar of St. Simon at Golgotha. This fanatic was treated with contempt by the shrewd people of Yorkshire; and the *Miller of Wakefield* persisted in grinding his corn after the hour of cessation, for which it is gravely said, "that his corn was

1201.-1228.

turned into blood, while the mill wheel stood immoveable against all the waters of the Calder."

1204. That disgrace to civilization, the Inquisition, began.

1205. In the Pipe Roll there is a charge in the sheriff's accounts, made under the authority of the king's writ, of 14s. 11d., for the expenses of conveying the king's wines from Hull to York.

1213. One *Peter of Pomfret*, (Pontefract,) a poor hermit, had foretold that the king (John) should lose his crown this very year; for which rash prediction he was thrown into Corfe castle, the king being resolved to punish him as an impostor, and the unfortunate hermit was in consequence "trailed" at the tails of horses to the town of Warham, where he was hung upon a gibbet, together with his son.

1214. This year *Roger Bacon* was born, a monk celebrated for learning, and the invention of the magic lanthorn, magnifying glasses, and *gunpowder*, which latter, however, is by some authors ascribed to Swartz, a monk of Cologne, who first caused it to be used in leathern guns, in 1330. Friar Bacon was imprisoned in his cell ten years, after which he spent six years in tranquillity in the college of his order at Oxford, and died on the 11th January, 1294, aged 80 years.——Robert de Lindesay, abbot of Peterborough, beautified thirty monastic windows with glass, which had previously been stuffed with straw to keep out the cold and rain.

1215. Magna Charta signed June 15th, by king John and the barons, at Runnemede, between Windsor and Staines.

1216. *Registers* began to be kept in *York*, supposed to be of an older date than any in the kingdom. They begin with the rolls of Walter de Gray, whereas those in the archiepiscopal palace at Lambeth do not commence before 1307.——The northern barons, having taken arms against king John, in the last year of his disordered reign, besieged York, but left it on receiving 1000 marks from the citizens.

1222. There are said to have been 1115 castles at this time in England.

1227. An *Indulgence* granted by Walter Gray, archbishop of York, of forty days *relaxation*, to those benefactors who should contribute liberally towards the erection of the south part of the cross aisle in the metropolitan church.

1228. After the commencement of the Registers of the see of York, Henry de Gray appears to be the first Rector of *Gargrave*, and was inducted 15th February in this year. In the endowment of this benefice, is one article

1228.-1250.

of very rare occurrence, viz., an ancient *personal tithe*, levied upon the wages of all labourers and artificers, to be paid in silver.

1234. Coal is said to have been discovered at Newcastle upon Tyne.

1242. Leeds constituted a Vicarage, which was first enjoyed by Dns. Alanus de Shirburn, nominated to the living by the prior and convent of Holy Trinity at York, who were then its patrons.

1244. Died at Paris, *John de Sacro Bosco*, of Halifax, an eminent mathematician.

1247. ROBIN HOOD, the bold outlaw and skilful archer of the 13th century, resided occasionally at Kirklees, near Huddersfield, where it is said he died on the 20th of December, 1247, being suffered to bleed to death by a nun of the adjacent convent, to whom he had applied to take from him a portion of his redundant blood. That his remains lie under an ancient cross at Kirklees, beyond the precincts of the nunnery which stood there is by some admitted, but whether he was of noble parentage, or an outlaw of humbler birth is not equally clear. Robin Hood was a "forester good as ever drew bow in the merrie green wood." He was a thoroughly brave and generous man. We learn that though Robin was an outlaw, yet that "he was no lover of blood; nay, he delighted in sparing those who sought his own life when they fell into his power; and he was beyond all examples even of knighthood, tender and thoughtful about women. Next to the ladies, he loved the yeomanry of England; he molested no hind at the plough, no thresher in the barn, no shepherd with his flocks; he was the friend and protector of the husbandman and hind, and woe to the priest who fleeced or the noble that oppressed them." The cross over his grave bears no inscription, but the epitaph may have been engraved upon a tombstone, which has now disappeared. It was as follows:—

"Hear, undernead dis latil stean,  
Laiz Robert, Earl of Huntington;  
Nea areir vir as him sa geud,  
An pipl kauld him Robin Heud;  
Sick utlaur az hi, an iz men,  
Vil Inglande nivr si agen;  
Obit 24, Kal Dekembris, 1247."

1250. About this period Knaresborough Priory was founded.

1251.-1269.

1251. "By a statute this year, a brewer may sell two gallons of ale for a penny in cities, and three or four for the same price in the country."——Henry III., and his queen met Alexander king of Scotland in the city of York, to present their daughter in marriage to that monarch. The ceremony was performed with a magnificence and grandeur suitable to the nuptials of such exalted persons.

1256. *Sewal de Bovil* succeeded Walter Gray in the *Archbishopric of York*, but was excommunicated for opposition respecting the preferment to the ecclesiastical dignities. He received absolution on his death-bed, and died May 10th, 1258.

1259. *Matthew Paris*, the celebrated historian, died.

1260. *John le Romain*, treasurer of the church, and father of the archbishop of York, of that name, built the north transept of York cathedral, and raised a handsome steeple in the place which the lantern tower now occupies.

1261. Up to this period, *Mirfield* formed a part of the Saxon parish of Dewsbury, and the cause of its separation, as appears from a latin M.S., in Hopkinson's collection of documents, is curious:—"As the *Lady of Sir John Heton*, the baroness of Mirfield, was going to mass before dawn on Christmas-day, to the parish church of Dewsbury, a distance of three miles, she was waylaid and robbed, and her principal attendant murdered, at a place called *Ravensbrook-layne*. On the same day, while she was at dinner, at nine o'clock in the morning, that being then the fashionable time, two mendicant ecclesiastics came to crave her charity, telling her at the same time that they were going to Rome, where her husband, Sir John, was then residing. On this intimation she sat down and wrote a letter to her husband, narrating to him the horrid scene she had so recently witnessed, and requested him to make interest with the pope to erect the chapel of Mirfield into a parochial church. The letter she confided to the priests, who duly delivered it to the knight, whose suit was so successful, that his holiness elevated Mirfield into a rectory."

1264. The *Commons of England* are said to have been first summoned to parliament at this date. There was a regular succession of parliaments from the year 1293. Knights and burgesses first sat together in 1342.

January 12th, died *Godfrey de Kinton*, archbishop of York, who appropriated Mexborough to his church, which, ever since, has been annexed to the deanery of York. He was interred in the minster.

1269. By a statute of Henry III., brewers and bakers

1269.-1291.

committing frauds were sentenced to be ducked in stinking water. In the same reign there was an ancient mode of punishing scolding women, by subjecting them to the operation of the ducking stool; one of which was established at the village of Morley, near Leeds, for the punishment of brawling women.

1274. *Ingolard Furbard* was inducted first vicar of Halifax, the rectory being then appropriated to the priory of Lewes, in Sussex.——In this year was born Robert, lord Clifford, first lord of the honour of Skipton. He lived about forty years, and was a person eminent for his services to this kingdom.

1279. Died William de Langueton, dean of York, whose tomb was inlaid with brass and gilt, but was destroyed in the rebellion.

1280. The cruel and arbitrary *Gibbet Law of Halifax* is first mentioned this year; it remained in force till 1650.

1281. Edward I., demanded of many of the monastic houses one-half of all their revenues, which they were obliged to pay, and acknowledge as a free gift. To such as paid it, he readily granted particular protection.

1284. By an inquest taken this year, it appears that the village of Rastrick was rated at 13s., and contained only six freemen; the rest were, according to the inquest, "*native tenantes, villians or bondsmen.*"——The price of a bible, with a commentary, fairly written, was thirty pounds; the pay of a labouring man, was three half-pence a day.

*Nicholas Poteman* granted to the prioress of St. Clement's and to the nuns there, two messuages in Clementhorpe, with a toft, a croft, and half an acre of land, which were confirmed to them by Edward III.

1285. A staple of wool, &c., was settled at Boston, in Lincolnshire, and the merchants of the Hanseatic League established there their guild, and a tax of a mark was laid on every sack of wool exported, and a mark on every three hundred skins.——By 13th Edward I., stat. 2, chap. 6, "The king commandeth that from henceforth neither fairs nor markets be kept in church-yards, for the honour of the church."

1291. Edward the first stayed some time in York, (on his way into Scotland,) when the famous Welshman, *Rees-ap-Meredith*, was conveyed to that city, tried for high treason, condemned and drawn through the town to the gallows, where he was hung and quartered.——The first stone of the nave of the cathedral at York was, on the 7th of April,

1291 -1306.

laid by John le Romain. The nave was completed by William de Melton, his successor, in 1330.

1292. A grant was made for the wife and family of *William lord Latimer*, who was then on the king's service in Gascony, to reside in Skipton castle, with allowance of fuel out of the woods there.

1298. *William de Hameltone* appointed dean of York, and on January 16th, 1305, had the great seal delivered to him as Lord Chancellor of England. He died in 1314.

In this year was born Roger lord Clifford, who died in the prime of his youth, in 1326. He was second lord of the honour of Skipton.——*Edward I.* summoned a special parliament to meet at York, and required his mutinous barons to attend to it, without excuse or delay, accounting those rebels that should disobey. At this parliament the commons of the realm granted the king the ninth penny of their goods, the archbishop of Canterbury with the clergy of his province the tenth penny, and the archbishop of York with his clergy a fifth. Soon after this Edward removed his courts of justice from London to York, until the battle of Falkirk. This ancient city then ranked amongst the *English ports*, and furnished one vessel to Edward's fleet; but when vessels began to be built on a larger scale its commerce decreased, and Hull became possessed of that trade which had previously attached to the northern metropolis.

1300. June 1st, the queen of Edward I., was taken suddenly in labour, as she was hunting in the neighbourhood of Brotherton, and not far from the church of that town is a place surrounded by a trench and a wall, in which the house was, where she was delivered of prince Thomas.

*Wool* in Craven, at this time, sold for more than £6. a sack, consisting of twenty-six stones, of fourteen pounds to the stone. At the same time the price of a cow was 7s. 4d.——This year the prior and canons of *Bolton* purchased the manor of *Appletrewic* from James de Eshton, but before they could take possession of it the prior was obliged to undertake a journey to Rome for a papal bull.

1305. COALS began to be so generally used that parliament complained to the king that the air was infected; in consequence of which two proclamations were issued, prohibiting their further use in the metropolis, and containing strict orders to inflict fines, and destroy all furnaces and kilns where coals should be found.

1306. WOLVES, though rare, were not extinct in *Craven* at this period.—The last wolf killed in the neighbourhood

1306.-1314.

of Leeds, tradition says, fell in a hunt, by the duke of Lancaster, commonly called "*John o'Gaunt*." A public-house, called the John o'Gaunt Inn, is said to be built on a plot of ground where the last wolf was killed. This house is on the new road between Leeds and Pontefract, little more than three miles from the former town.

Nine stones weight of butter were made at Malham from the *milk of sheep*.

1310. There were this year consumed at Bolton in Craven, 147 stones of cheese made from *ewes' milk*.

1311. Edward II., kept his Christmas at York, with great festivity.

1312. *Piers Gaveston* and his followers, who had been banished by Edward I., joined Edward II., at York, by whom they were received as a "gift from heaven." Gaveston had excited the resentment of the barons, who had formed a powerful conspiracy against him, in consequence of which the king caused the walls of the city to be strongly fortified, and put into a posture of defence. Thomas, earl of Lancaster, first prince of the blood, was at the head of the barons, who, by oath, had bound themselves to expel Gaveston. He therefore raised an army suddenly, and marched to York, whence he found Edward had removed with Gaveston, to Newcastle; thither he hastened, when the king and his favourite had just time to escape to Tyne-mouth, and the pursuit being continued he and Gaveston embarked and sailed to Scarborough, the castle of which port he made his favourite the governor.

Alice Laci, relict of the earl of Lincoln, "quit-claimed" the advowson of the church of Leeds, to the prior and monks of Holy Trinity in York.

1314. After the fatal *battle of Bannockburn*, in which Edward II., lost about 50,000 men, he narrowly escaped to York, where he immediately called his nobles together for consultation, but nothing was then determined.

Of the value of money about this period, some idea may be formed from the maximum prices, fixed by the king's writs, on the following articles of food:—an Ox, stall or corn fed, 24s., one grass fed, 16s. A fat stalled Cow, 12s., any other fed Cow, 10s. A fat Sheep, 1s. 8d., ditto, shorn, 1s. 2d. A fat Hog, 2 years old, 3s. 4d. A fat Goose, 3d. A fat Capon, 2½d. A fat Hen, 1½. 24 Eggs, 1d.

The Scots, after gaining the above-named battle, which occurred on the 25th July, 1314, overran the north of England, and in that and the three following years, they several times visited, plundered, and devastated the rich pastoral



1314.-1321.

districts of Craven, and also *Bolton Priory*. At their first irruption the prior fled into Blackburnshire; several of the canons took refuge in Skipton castle, where part of their cattle were preserved; the granges of Embsay, Carlton, Halton, and Stede were destroyed, and all the cattle driven away from Halton, where the corn lands lay untilled the next year.——A survey of all the lands, freehold and copyhold, in the manor of Wakefield, was taken by William of Thimbleby and Thomas of Sheffield.

1316. This year Edward II., granted a free market (on Tuesday) and two fairs to John de Elland, at his manor of Elland.

1318. *Douglas*, one of Robert Bruce's generals, burned the towns of Northallerton and Boroughbridge, and imposed a contribution upon the inhabitants of Ripon. He then reduced Scarborough and Skipton to ashes, and, with much plunder, carried off a great number of prisoners to Scotland.

1319. Edward II., desirous of raising an army to oppose Robert Bruce, came down into Yorkshire for that purpose, but found the country so thinly inhabited, that he was obliged to have recourse to the southern and western parts of the kingdom to complete his forces.——During the inroads of the Scots, the town and church of *Ripon* were burnt, but re-built principally by the munificence of Edward III., and William de Melton, archbishop of York.

The courts of Justice, with the Domesday Book, and other national records, which, with provisions, loaded 21 carts, were removed to York for six months.

The Scots entering England laid waste the country with fire and sword, and continuing their depredations, advanced to the walls of York; after burning the suburbs of that city, they returned northwards, on which William de Melton, archbishop of York, immediately raised an army, composed of clergymen, monks, canons, husbandmen, labourers, and tradesmen, to the number of 10,000 men. With this undisciplined band the archbishop overtook the Scots at Myton-on-Swale; a battle ensued, the Yorkshiremen were defeated and upwards of 2000 of them slain, including the mayor of York.

1321. A battle was fought this year at Boroughbridge between the discontented barons, headed by the earl of Lancaster, and the forces of Edward II., commanded by Sir Andrew de Harkley (or Harclea,) warden of Carlisle. The king was at Pontefract when this battle took place and sent orders for Lancaster (who was taken prisoner)



1321.-1327.

and others to be brought to him. The third day after their arrival sentence of death was passed upon Lancaster, who was not permitted to speak in his own defence; but after sentence had an old hat put on his head, and they set him on a lean horse, without a bridle. Attended by a confessor, he was thus carried out of the town suffering the insults of the people. At length he reached the hill where he was doomed to suffer, and having kneeled down towards the east, he was desired to turn his face towards Scotland, after which the executioner severed his head from his body. The priors and monks begged the body and buried it in the church of the priory. Thus fell Thomas, earl of Lancaster, on the 11th of April, the first prince of the blood; and one of the most powerful noblemen that had ever been in England.

1322. A division of the Scottish army who spread devastation wherever they came, wintered at Morley; and a large deposit of coins belonging to that period, found near a house occupied by Thoresby, the antiquarian, in Kirkgate, Leeds, proves the terror and confusion which must have then prevailed.—In this year Edward II., was so closely pursued by the Scots, that he was surprised whilst at dinner in Byland abbey, about fourteen miles from York, which city he fortunately reached before the enemy, owing to the fleetness of his horse. In York his eldest son was created *prince of Wales*, and duke of Aquitaine, and he there issued commissions of array, one of which was to raise all the defensible men in the Wapentake of Skyrack, between the ages of sixteen and sixty to march against the Scots.

*William de Melton*, archbishop of York, consecrated a new parish church at Wakefield, which was most probably the present parish church. Whether it was placed on the site of the old one, which existed in 1080, is very doubtful, Leland says, "the principal church that now is in Wakefield is of a new work, but it is exceedingly fair and large."

1324. John Wyckliff, "the morning star of the Reformation," was born in the parish of Wyckliff this year, and, after being twice struck with the palsy, expired in the church at Lutterworth, in the month of December, 1384. "To this intuitive genius," says Gilpin, "Christianity was unquestionably more obliged than to any name in the list of Reformers. He not only loosed prejudices, but advanced such clear incontestible truths, as having once obtained footing, still kept their ground."

1327. Edward III., who had just ascended the throne,

1327.

ordered his whole army to rendezvous in the city of York, in order to oppose Robert Bruce, king of Scotland, who, with an army of 25,000 men, was ravaging the northern parts of the kingdom. While Edward lay at York, preparing for this expedition, there came to his aid John lord Beaumont, of Hainault, one of the bravest knights of the age, accompanied with other gallant knights and gentlemen, who, with his retinue, composed a band of 500, or according to Knightson, of 2000 men. For six weeks Edward had his court at York, with an army of 60,000 men, which, notwithstanding its numbers, was well supplied with provisions. During this time, ambassadors arrived in York from Scotland to treat for peace, but after some weeks the negotiations broke off, and the king with all his barons marched at the head of the whole army against the Scots, in all the martial pomp of those chivalrous times. After a keen pursuit the Scotch army was at last overtaken, and cooped up by the English in Stanhope park, from which they were suffered to escape by the treachery of lord Mortimer, at the moment when they were ready to surrender from the cravings of famine. Edward, chagrined at the loss of his prey, when it seemed within his grasp, returned to York, and afterwards to London, having previously dismissed lord John of Hainault, to the continent, bounteously rewarded for his services. The next year lord John returned with his niece Phillippa, the most celebrated beauty of the age, and with a great retinue conducted her to York, where the court then was, in order to her marriage with the king in that city. On the Sunday before the eve of St. Paul's conversion, in the year 1329, the marriage was publicly solemnized in the cathedral, by the archbishop. Upon these happy nuptials, says Froissart, the whole kingdom teemed with joy, and the court at York expressed these feelings in a more than ordinary manner, for three weeks the feastings were continued without intermission; there was nothing but jousts and tournaments in the day time, and maskings, revels, and interludes, with songs and dances in the night. The Hainault soldiery, actuated by a licentious and revengeful spirit, took advantage of this carnival to treat the inhabitants with outrage and violence, and to such an excess did they carry their misconduct, that they ravished several of the wives, daughters, and maid-servants of the inhabitants, and set fire to the suburbs of the city, by which a whole parish was nearly destroyed. The citizens, scandalized by these proceedings, challenged the Hainaulters to battle; this challenge was accepted, and the battle was

1327.

fought in a street called Watling-gate, with such desperate fury, that five hundred and twenty-seven of the foreigners were slain or drowned in the Ouse, and two hundred and forty-two fell of the English.

1327. The chantry of St, Mary the Virgin, in Leeds, was founded when the Leeds bridge was erected about this time. It was situated at the north-east end of the bridge, and after the dissolution was used as a private grammar school, subsequently as a warehouse, and finally demolished in the year 1760.—In the reign of Edward III., Sir John Elland, of Elland, instigated by some unexplained cause of hostility, raised a body of his friends and tenantry and placing himself at their head, sallied forth by night from the "Manor-hall," and attacked and slew Hugh of Quarmby, Lockwood, of Lockwood, and Sir Robert Beaumont, of Crossland; the latter of whom was torn from his wife, and beheaded in the hall of his own house; the whole of these were murdered in the presence of their families. On the perpetration of these sanguinary murders, the younger branches of the Beaumonts, the Quarmbys, and the Lockwoods, fled into Lancashire, and found an asylum under the roofs of the Towneleys and the Breretons. It was not till the eldest sons of the three outraged families had grown up to manhood, that retribution was sought and obtained for the blood of their parents. With this purpose the three young men placed themselves in a wood, at Cromwell-bottom, and as Sir John Elland was returning from Rastrick, they met him beneath Brook-foot, and slew him. Not satisfied with this act of justice, they determined to extirpate the name of Elland, with which sanguinary intention they placed themselves in a mill, near which the young knight with his lady and their son had to pass to church. On the approach of the family over the dam, the murderers rushed forth and shot an arrow through the head of the father, and wounded his only child so desperately, that he died soon after in Elland hall. The name of Elland now became extinct, and the daughter of Sir John, having contracted marriage with one of the Saviles, the property passed into that family. The murder of the young knight and his infant son, roused the town of Elland to arms, and they advanced *en masse* to punish the murderers. For some time Beaumont, Quarmby, and Lockwood, whose arms vengeance had nerved, stood their ground, and defended themselves with distinguished valour against the unequal numbers by which they were assailed, but, being at length overpowered, Quarmby fell dead on the field, and his

1327.-1339.

comrades only escaped the same fate by the fleetness of their horses.

1330. Edward III. ordered every county in England to send him a certain number of masons, tilers, and carpenters, to assist in building his castle at Windsor.

1333. Sandal castle, which is said to have been built by John earl of Warren and Surrey, in order to secure himself the beautiful and meretricious countess of Lancaster, Isabel Fitz Hugh, wife to Thomas earl of Lancaster, was in this year assigned to Baliol, king of Scotland, by Edward III., as the place of his residence, until Edward had got ready a fleet and army, to be employed in restoring Baliol to that throne from which Robert Bruce had driven him. Here the exiled monarch of Scotland resided, with the countess of Vesay, in that peaceful serenity seldom witnessed in the precincts of a court, during the six months in which Edward was preparing for the expedition, the result of which proved fatal to the unfortunate Baliol, who perished in the field of carnage, contending for a crown.

1336. Edward III. granted his protection to two *Brabant weavers*, to settle at York, and carry on their trade there. They were stiled in the letters of protection "*Willielmus de Brabant and Hanckeynus de Brabant, textores*," and probably laid the foundation of the woollen manufactures, which have so amazingly increased in the West-Riding. It is not improbable, that the manufacturer Hanckeynus gave the name of hank to the skein of worsted and other thread so called to the present time. Before this period the English were chiefly "shepherds and wool merchants, and the king received few other imposts but from wool exported."

1338. By an indenture of this date, one Robert, a glazier, contracted with Thomas Boneston, *custos* of the fabric of York cathedral, to glaze and paint the great western window, the glazier to find the glass, and to be paid at the rate of 6d. per foot for plain, and 1s. per foot for coloured glass.

Edward III. "having solicited a great many men from the Netherlands, well skilled in *cloth making*," sent colonies of them to Kendal and other places. Before this period all the wool grown in the country was exported, and manufactured in the Netherlands. The manufacturers of Flanders, afterwards, seeking refuge from the persecutions with which they were assailed in their own country, repaired in great numbers to England, and many of them settled at Halifax and the neighbouring places.

1339. The parliament granted Edward III. a duty of forty shillings on each sack of wool exported. Also the

1339.-1354.

same amount on each three hundred wool-fells, and on each last of leather, for two years. The act of parliament, which passed the preceding year for the encouragement of foreign weavers, prohibited the importation of foreign cloth, which it was declared should be worn by none but the king and queen, and their children.

1342. May 20th, died Robert de Clifford, third lord of the honour of Skipton, and brother to the last lord. The value of the castle and manor of Skipton was at this time computed at £107 15s. 9d.

1347. Thos. lord Wake gave to the Crouched Friars of York 1 toft and 10 acres of land, for building an oratory and habitation thereon.—During the wars in France, David Bruce, the competitor of John Baliol, king of Scotland, undertook to invade England, which was then left to the sole government of the Queen. Bruce penetrated to the gates of York, and burnt part of the suburbs, having laid waste the country through which he passed with fire and sword. Phillippa, the queen regent, then at York, having collected a powerful army, repulsed the invaders, and pursued them to Neville's Cross, in the county of Durham, where, on the 17th of October, 1347, she gained a signal victory, having slain fifteen thousand of the Scots, and taken Bruce prisoner.—The *Woollen Manufacturers*, sent a petition to the king and lords, praying "that the new custom lately set upon cloth" exported from England, "may be taken away." This duty was on "every cloth carried forth by English 14d., by strangers 21d., except worsted cloth, on which the English merchants paid 1d. per piece, and strangers 1½d.

1349. *A destructive pestilence*, which first discovered itself in the northern part of Asia, made its progress from one end of Europe to the other, and, according to computation, swept away one third of the inhabitants.

1352. John Thoresby was elected archbishop of York. It was in his time that the archbishop of York was made by the pope *primate of England*, and the archbishop of Canterbury *primate of all England*. Dissatisfaction had existed on this point upwards of 250 years.—July 19th, died *Wm. de la Zouch*, archbishop of York, who commanded the 2nd division of the English army at the memorable battle of Neville's Cross, in the county of Durham, where he displayed such heroism and conduct as greatly redounded to his honour. He was buried at York.

1354. YORK, which had long been famous for trade, obtained by an act, passed this year, the *staple trade of Wool*,

1354.-1381.

which had before been at Bruges, in Flanders. Many of the York merchants were subsequently members of the "Corporation of the Staple" at Calais. The woollen manufacture flourished at York, so late as the reign of Henry VIII.

1357. Edward III., by a charter of this date, at Wakefield, granted to Wm. Kay, Wm. Bull, and their successors for ever, the annual sum of £10, to perform divine service in the *chapel of St. Mary, on the bridge at Wakefield*. The revenue was secured and made payable out of the produce of the towns of Wakefield, Stanley, Ossett, Pontefract, Purston-Jackling, and Water-Fryston. When this chapel and its two chantries were suppressed, its revenue was valued at £14 15s. 3½d.

1361. The *choir of York cathedral*, which had been erected in 1171, by archbishop Roger, was taken down and re-built by archbishop Thoresby, in a style more suited to the nave, which was completed in 1330, by Wm. de Melton. The *wages of workmen* at this period were 3d. a day to a *master mason or carpenter*, and 1½d. a day to their journeymen. A pound's worth of silver was then a pound weight, which is equal to four pounds of our present money, and one penny then would purchase as much corn as twenty-pence now.

1371. The castle, manor, and honour of Knaresborough were granted by Edward III., to his fourth son, John of Gaunt, duke of Lancaster.

1372. The Fulling Mills, near the castle of Leeds, (47 Edw. III.,) were in the occupation of Thomas Burgers, at 33s. 4d., per annum rent. The "Two CORN MILLS of the Queen's Majesty were then held by Letters Patent, under the seals of the Duchy of Lancaster, by John Lindley, Esq., of Leathley, at the yearly rent of £13 6s. 8d., but the clear yearly value was £126 13s. 4d.——The law pleadings in England were changed from the French to the English language, as a favour by Edward III., to his people, in the 50th or jubilee year of his reign.

1377. The office of champion of England first introduced at the coronation of Richard II. It has continued in the Dymock family ever since.

1380. This year is memorable for the insurrection under Wat Tyler, which was suppressed by the courage of Sir William Walworth, lord mayor of London, and the presence of mind of Richard II., then a mere youth.

1381. *Bills of Exchange* were first introduced into the commerce of England about this year.



1385.-1399.

1385. During the time Richard II. resided at York, his half-brother, Sir John Holland, and Lord Ralph Stafford, had a quarrel, which produced a duel, when the latter was slain.

1390. The "plague" at York swept away 1100 inhabitants, and in the following year it raged with such dreadful effect in England, that no fewer than 11,000 persons fell under its infectious influence.—This year two species of English woollen cloth were manufactured under an assize of length and breadth, viz.: the fine plain cloth of the western counties, and the coarse cloth of Kendal, the latter of which were called Kendal Cottons, though made wholly of wool; for the real cotton manufacture did not exist in England till the middle of the 17th century. For several centuries the buckram or green druggets, made at Kendal, and in Yorkshire, was the common clothing of the poor in London, and other towns.

1392. May. Died, in exile at Louvaine, in extreme poverty, Alexander Neville, Archbishop of York, who was a great favourite with Richard II. He was translated to the see of St. Andrews in 1388, but was obliged to flee his country, to avoid the malice of his enemies.

1396. King Richard II. appointed John Snagtall to the vicarage of Leeds.

1398. May 29th, died, Robert Waldby, Archbishop of York, of which city he was a native, and a friar in the monastery of St. Augustine there.

1399. The unfortunate Richard II., was confined some time in Leeds castle, till his removal to Pontefract, where he was murdered in cold blood, or starved to death, within the fatal walls of the fortress there, which was so often the scene of the foulest deeds of cruelty. In Hardyng's chronicle, the circumstance is thus noticed:—

"The kyng then sent kyng Richard to Ledis  
There to be kept surely in privitee;  
Fro thens after to Pyckering went he needis,  
And to Knaresbro' after led was he;  
But to Pomfret last where he did dee.

The fate of Richard II. has been described as follows:—  
"One Sir Piers, of Exton, departing from court, came to Pomfret, commanding that the esquire who was used to serve Richard should let him eat well know, as not long would he eat. King Richard sat down to dinner, and was served without curtesie or assay, when he, marvelling at

1400.-1405.

the sudden change, demanded of the esquire, why he did not do his duty? Sir, said he, I am otherwise commanded by Sir Piers of Exton, who is newly come from King Henry; when he heard that word he took the carving-knife in his hand, and struck the esquire on his head, saying, "The devil take thee, and Henry of Lancaster together," and with that word, Sir Piers entered into the chamber, well armed, with eight tall men in harness; every man having a bill in his hand. King Richard, perceiving them armed, knew well that they came to his confusion, and, putting the table from him, valiantly took the bill out of the first man's hand, and manfully defended himself, slaying four of them in a short space of time. Sir Piers, dismayed, leaped into Richard's chair, the other four assailing and chasing him about the chamber, till he came by the knight, who, with a stroke of his pole-axe felled him to the ground, after which he was shortly rid out of the world, without either confession, or receipt of sacrament."

1400. John Froissart, the celebrated chronicler, died this year.

1401. The detestable act of parliament, for "burning obstinate heretics" was passed, and William Sautree, a parish priest of St. Osyth, in the city of London, was the first who suffered under it.

1402. Blair's chronology says,—John Gower, of Stitenham, Yorkshire, the first English poet, died this year.

1405. The inhabitants of York and some other places, having received many favours from Richard II., (the last monarch of the house of Plantagenet) showed their gratitude by forming a conspiracy to depose the usurper of his throne. Henry Percy, Earl of Northumberland, who lost his brother and son in the battle of Shrewsbury, Richard Scroop, Archbishop of York, whose brother the King (Henry IV.) had beheaded, and Thomas Mowbray, Earl Marshal of England, whose father died in exile, united with Lords Falconberge, Bardolf, Hastings, and others, were found in this league. The Archbishop's impatience precipitated the disclosure of the plot. Scroop framed several articles of impeachment against the king, which he caused to be fixed upon the doors of the churches in his own diocese, and sent them in the form of a circular into other counties in the kingdom, inviting the people to take up arms to reform abuses. To strengthen this call, he preached a sermon to three congregations assembled for religious worship in the cathedral, and roused 20,000 men suddenly to arms, who joined his standard at York, on which was painted the five wounds



1405.-1412.

of our Saviour.—To subdue this rebellion Henry sent an army of 30,000 men into Yorkshire, under the command of the earl of Westmoreland, and the Prince John. On the arrival of the king's forces at York, they found the archbishop encamped out of the gates of the city, on the forest of Galtres, so advantageously, that it was not judged advisable to attack him. The wily earl, affecting to favour the views of the insurgents, solicited an interview with the archbishop, who took with him the Earl Marshal. Having got them into his toils, and plied them well with wine, he arrested them on the spot for high treason, and their lives paid the forfeit of their precipitancy and misplaced confidence. The archbishop was beheaded in a field betwixt Bishopthorpe and York, and interred in the cathedral, where being regarded as a martyr, his tomb was visited by crowds of devotees. He was the first instance of a clergyman suffering by the civil law. In 1408 the Earl of Northumberland again appeared in arms, and was defeated and slain on Bramham Moor, by Sir Thomas Rokeby, High Sheriff of Yorkshire.

1405. Aug. 10th. By indenture John Thornton, of Coventry, glazier, contracted with the dean and chapter of York, for glazing and painting the great eastern window: the work to be finished in three years, for which he was to receive 4s. per week, and £5 at the end of each of the three years. If he performed the work to the satisfaction of his employers, he was to receive the further sum of £10 in silver.

1408. Henry IV. granted to Sir T. Rokeby, the manor of Spofforth in the West-Riding, with all its appurtenances during his life.

1410. The parish church at Normanton was by the Pope's bull appropriated to the Prior of the Hospital of St. John, of Jerusalem, in England, reserving out of the fruits of the said church, a competent portion for a secular vicar perpetually to be instituted therein.

1412. Henry V., when Prince of Wales, was committed to prison for striking Chief-Justice Gascoyne, on the bench, before whom one of his companions was indicted for a riot—In the reign of Henry V., a mandate was received by the Lord Mayor of York from that monarch, to seize and confiscate the estates and effects of Henry Lord Scrope, of Masham, beheaded for high treason, at Southampton, in the first year of his reign. His head, with the mandate, was ordered to be placed on the top of Micklegate Bar.—The city of London was first lighted at night

1412.-1455.

with lanthorns ; also a public granary was erected at Leadenhall.

1414. Richard de Sunderland, and Joan his wife, surrendered into the hands of the lord of the manor, an inclosure at Halifax called the "Tenter Croft." Woollen goods were manufactured long before this period.

1415. The memorable Battle of Agincourt was fought between the French and English, Oct. 25th, and gained by Henry V. of England, whose army was not more than one-fourth as numerous as the French, who had 10,000 slain, and 14,000 made prisoners, while the loss of the English were very few indeed,—some accounts say not more than forty.

1417. The chantry, or chapel at Farnley. is supposed to have been founded by Sir William Harrington, Knight, about this time. No remains exist, and the site is occupied by a modern erection.

1430. The chantry, in Kirkgate, Leeds, was founded by Thomas Clarell, to pray for the "souls of the founder, King Edward IV., Elizabeth his Queen, and all christian souls, and to do divine service," and was situate below the old vicarage ; but every vestige of it is gone, and the site included in that of Kirkgate market.

1435. In this year printing was invented by John Gutenberg. The credit of introducing the art into England was long believed to be due to Wm. Caxton, a mercer and citizen of London, who set up a printing press in Westminster Abbey about the year 1471 ; but it is now established beyond a doubt, that books were printed at Oxford by Corsellis several years before Caxton set his press to work, and that therefore that city has the honour of having been the first seat of the art in England. Caxton however was the first who introduced printing with *moulded metal types*, the works by his predecessors having been executed merely with wooden ones.

1440. Geoffrey Chaucer, of Woodstock, died.

1450. A rebellion broke out, headed by Jack Cade, in favour of the Duke of York.

1454. Thomas Lord Clifford, eighth lord of the honour of Skipton, was slain in the first battle of St. Alban's on the 22nd of May, in the 41st year of his age, and was interred there with his uncle, Henry Percy, Earl of Northumberland, and the other noblemen who fell on that occasion, in the lady chapel of the monastery.

1455. The first instance of debt contracted upon parliamentary security occurred in the reign of Henry VI., and per-

1455.—1460.

mission was given by government for the exportation of corn, when it should be below a certain price.

1458. The Fraternity of Corpus Christi at York, was incorporated by letters patent, dated November 6th, this year. It was instituted for a master and six priests, who were termed the keepers of the guild, and served without fee or reward, being annually renewed by the brotherhood. Nevertheless they were bound to make a solemn annual procession through the city of York on the Friday after Corpus Christi day; and the day after to perform a solemn dirge, and mass, to pray for the prosperity of brothers and sisters living, and the souls departed, and to keep yearly ten poor folks.

1459. September 23rd. The armies of Henry VI., and the Duke of York met at Bloreheath, on the borders of Staffordshire, where the Yorkists gained some advantages; but the night before an intended general engagement, Sir Andrew Trollop, who commanded a body of veterans for the duke, deserted to the king, taking with him all his forces, which dismayed the Plantagenet army, and the Duke of York fled to Ireland; the Earl of Warwick escaped to Calais, but on returning to England soon after, he was joined by such a host of Yorkists as to be in a condition to face the royal army, then advancing from Coventry, in order to give him battle, which took place on July 10th, 1460, near Northampton, when the king's army was completely defeated, with a loss of more than 10,000 men.—The Queen, the young Prince of Wales, and the Duke of Somerset, fled into the county of Durham, thence into Wales, and afterwards into Scotland.

1460. The bloody conflict between the houses of York and Lancaster had now commenced, and Yorkshire was doomed to experience that scourge of nations, "civil war," in its greatest horrors. After Henry VI. had been taken prisoner at the battle of Northampton, his masculine and warlike queen, Margaret of Anjou, repaired to the north, where she soon drew together 20,000 men. The Duke of York, hearing of her appearance in Yorkshire, hastened to Wakefield, and being informed that the enemy's forces were greatly superior to his own, he resolved to shut himself up in the neighbouring Castle of Sandal, till his eldest son, the Earl of March, should arrive with a reinforcement; but the bold queen soon appeared before the walls of the fortress, with the main body of her army, led by the Dukes of Somerset and Exeter, and by calling on him as a coward, who durst not encounter a woman, she forced him to lead

1460.-1461.

out his troops to Wakefield Green, where he offered battle to the Lancasterians, though he had only 5000 men. The inequality of numbers was of itself sufficient to decide the victory, but the queen having placed a body of troops in ambush, under Lord Clifford and the Earl of Wiltshire, they fell upon the duke's rear, while he was attacked in front by the main body, and in less than half an hour himself was slain, and his little army nearly annihilated. His body was soon recognized among the slain; his head was cut off by Margaret's order, and fixed upon the gates of York, with a paper crown upon it, in derision of his pretended title. The Earl of Rutland, the second son of the Duke of York, was forced into the presence of Lord Clifford, who basely murdered the youth in cold blood. This battle of Wakefield was fought December 24th, 1460. Amongst the slain in Margaret's army, was Richard Hanson, Esq., Mayor of Hull.

1461. Young Edward, the late Duke of York's eldest son, having now gained both popularity and strength, and the assistance of the Earl of Warwick, (afterwards called the king-maker,) declared his title to the crown, and inveighed publicly against the tyranny and usurpation of the house of Lancaster, the hopes of which he ultimately overthrew at the battle of Towton, fought near Tadcaster, on Palm Sunday, 1461, when no fewer than one hundred thousand men of the same country drew their swords against each other, to satisfy the ambition of the weakest or the worst of mankind. While the army of Edward was advancing to the charge, there happened a great fall of snow, which, driving full in the faces of the Lancasterians, blinded them; and this advantage, seconded by an impetuous onset, decided the victory in favour of Edward, whose orders to give no quarter were so fully executed, that 40,000 of the Lancasterians were slain, or drowned in the Cock Rivulet, which, in the confusion of their retreat, was filled with human bodies, forming a bridge for the pursued and the pursuers to pass over. Henry and Margaret remained at York during the battle, but, on hearing of its disastrous result, they fled to Scotland.—Margaret succeeded in escaping out of the kingdom, but the weak and unfortunate Henry was taken prisoner, while Edward, after visiting York, returned to London, and was crowned on the 29th of July following. The heads of the Duke of York and some of his followers, which had been placed on Micklegate Bar, at York, after the battle of Wakefield, were now removed, and replaced by the heads of the Lancasterian

1461.-1483.

nobles, Devon and Kime. Thus was the city made the theatre on which was displayed the memorials of royal revenge. John Clapham, of Cottingley, near Bradford, was a general in these wars, under the great Earl of Warwick, and cut off the heads of the Earl of Pembroke and the Duke of Bedford, in the church porch at Banbury.

1464. By an extraordinary grant from Edward IV., to the citizens of York, it appears they had been friendly to him and his cause. The patent is dated at York, June 10th, and expresses the king's great concern for the sufferings and hardships the city had undergone during the wars, in consideration of which he not only relinquished his usual demands upon it, but assigned it for the twelve succeeding years an annual rent of £40, to be paid out of his customs in the port of Hull.

1467. It was fashionable at this time to wear the points of the shoes so long, that it was necessary to tie them up to the knees with laces or chains. Gentlemen used for this purpose chains made of silver.—The ladies wore lofty steeple head dresses, consisting of a roll of linen covered with fine lawn, which hung to the ground, or was mostly tucked under the arm.

1471. Edward the IVth. after an absence of nine months in Holland, ventured to make a descent at Ravenspurn, in Yorkshire, on the 14th of March, aided by a small body of troops, granted him by the Duke of Burgundy. At first he was but coolly received, yet, as he marched along through the country, his forces rapidly increased, while his extreme moderation, and seeming humility, endeared him to his partisans. The gates of London were readily opened to receive him, and the weak Henry VI. was again dethroned and committed to the Tower of London.

1480. During this year, Thomas Scott, Archbishop of York, usually called "Thomas Rotherham," who was then Bishop of Lincoln, founded a college in the town of Rotherham, and dedicated it to the Holy Jesus : of this structure, which subsisted for nearly a century, there remains the Inn, in Jesus-gate, and the opposite buildings now used as stables.

1482. By statute 22nd, Edward IV., "It is ordained and enacted, that no manner of person, under the estate of a lord, shall wear any gown or mantell, unless it be of such length, that hee being upright, it shall cover his buttocks, upon pain to forfeit twenty shillings."

1483. Thomas Parr, (Old Parr) was born this year, at Alderbury, Shropshire. At the age of 80 years, he married

1483 -1503.

his first wife Jane. At the age of 120 he married Katharine Milton. He lived during the reign of ten English sovereigns. He died in the Strand, London, in 1635, aged 152 years, in the midst of his children, down to the fourth generation. He had been blind for 16 years. His food through life consisted exclusively of milk, cheese, bread, and small beer.

1490. Thomas Savile, Esq., late of Hollingedge, by his will gave his soul to Almighty God; and his body to be buried in Sandal church, and ordained that a chaplain do yearly celebrate there for ever prayers for his soul, and the souls of Elizabeth his wife, and Henry his brother, for the sustenance of which said chaplain and his successors he appointed lands and tenements in Heaton of the yearly value of £4 and upwards.

1494. Algebra was first known in Europe.

1497. The first grammar printed in England was published by John Holt, of Magdalen college, and usher of Magdalen school in Oxford. It was entituled, "*Lac Puerorum*," and dedicated to Morton, Archbishop of Canterbury.

1500. May 20th, died, at an advanced age, of the plague, at Cawood, Thomas Scot de Rotherham, Archbishop of York, who was a native of Rotherham. In September, 1480, he was translated from Lincoln, was made Lord High Chancellor, but was afterwards committed to prison. He was interred in York Minster.—The chapel at Headingley, near Leeds, was built about this period.

1501. The last mention of the family of Rockley, who built the hall bearing their name, formerly in Lowerhead Row, Leeds, occurs in a deed of this date.

1503. The Princess Margaret, Henry's eldest daughter, when on her journey into Scotland in order to consummate her marriage with James IV., visited York, accompanied by 500 lords, ladies, and esquires.—Feb. 11th, died in childbed (and, soon after the princess to whom she gave birth,) Elizabeth of York, daughter of Edward the IVth., and queen of Henry VII., by whose marriage the long-contending houses of York and Lancaster were united, and England saved from those sanguinary conflicts which had so often deluged the kingdom in blood.—Murderers were allowed at this time the "benefit of clergy," and in Henry VIII.'s days, murders were compounded for in Wales. During the Saxon Heptarchy this crime was only punished by fines.—Christopher Baynbrigge, LL.D., was appointed Dean of York. In 1507, he became Bishop of Durham, and in 1508, Archbishop of York, which diocese he held till



1503-1517.

1514, when he was sent ambassador to Rome, made cardinal, and poisoned by his steward, an Italian priest, whom he had disgraced with a blow.

1506. This year died Christopher Columbus, the great navigator, aged 64. The discoverer of America.

1507. Dr. Thomas Robertson, celebrated for his learning, was born at Wakefield this year. In 1546 he succeeded Dr. Thomas Knolles in the vicarage of his own native place, and was afterwards appointed Dean of Durham.

1509. About this time kitchen gardens began to be cultivated in England; vegetables hitherto having been brought from the Netherlands. Previous to this date sugar was eaten with animal food to correct its putrescency.

Sir John de Normanville sold the manor of Coniston, in Craven, to William Malham, rector of Marton, and one of the clerks or masters in Chancery. On the north-west side of Coniston Moor is a place called Sweet Gap, where tradition reports that the inhabitants of Gargrave made a stand against a party of Scottish invaders, and were cut off almost to a man: Gargrave, according to the same tradition, had then seven churches, six of which these destroyers burnt, and spared the seventh, for the merit of being dedicated to their own national St. Andrew.

Hugo Goes established the first printing press at York, where his first production was the *Pica or Pie*, (an old book of liturgy) of the cathedral. This man, who so early practised the typographic art in the city of York, was the son of an ingenious printer at Antwerp.

1513. Before the Battle of Flodden Field 500 soldiers were raised in the city and ainsty of York, to march against the Scots, during the absence of Henry VIII., then at the siege of Tournay, in France. In the great battle which ensued, the Scottish King, James IV. was slain, and his body brought to York, and exposed to public view. To the fatal field of Flodden in Northumberland, the York regiment was led by Sir John Maundeville.

1514. Cannon balls of stone were in use at this time—cannon were first made of iron in 1547; of brass in 1635; cannon shot made from iron are first mentioned in 1550.

1515. Dec. 22nd. Henry VIII. appointed the Archbishop of York (Cardinal Wolsey) to the chancellorship of England; he being the pope's legate, became prime minister, and held at the same time the sees of York, Westminster, and Durham, with the Abbeys of St. Alban's and Lincoln.

1517. Martin Luther began that reformation in the church which Wickliff, nearly a century and a half before, had

1517.-1533.

laboured so assiduously to effect, but which was not established till March 30th, 1534, when Henry VIII. sanctioned the "Protestants," a name which originated in the Diet of Spires, A.D. 1529. Luther died Feb. 18th. 1546.

1520. The tobacco plant is said to have been found by the Spaniards in this year, in the island of Jucatan; first brought into England by Ralph Lane, 1583; planted in many parts of England till prohibited by an act of parliament. It was allowed to be cultivated in Ireland in 1779.

1521. Bows and arrows superseded by muskets, which were now generally introduced into the army.

1525. Illingworth chapel, in Ovenden, built on one acre of waste land granted by Henry Savile, lord of Ovenden, to certain feoffees, in trust, that they should pay yearly to the lord one "red rose."

1526. The chapel at Sowerby Bridge was built this year, and enlarged in 1632.

1529. The Attorney-General, on the 9th of October, prepared a bill of indictment against Cardinal Wolsey, who was the pope's legate, Archbishop of York, &c. He was in consequence ordered to depart from York-place palace, having been first commanded to resign the great seal. His furniture and plate were converted to the king's use. Amongst other things, when an inventory was taken of the archbishop's goods, were found 1000 pieces of fine Holland. His palace walls were covered with cloth of gold and silver. He had a cupboard of plate of massy gold, and all the rest of his riches and furniture were in proportion.

1530. Nov. 4th. Cardinal Wolsey was apprehended at York, on a charge of high treason, by order of Henry the VIII., but as that tyrant had sent Wolsey a ring, accompanied by a gracious message, he being on horseback when he met the king's messenger, instantly alighted, and throwing himself upon his knees in the mire, received in that abject condition that fallacious mark of his master's condescension.

The Spinning wheel invented at Brunswick by Jurgen.

The Convent of Esholt, (the Ashwood) in the parish of Otley, founded by Simon de Ward, in the middle of the 12th century, was about this time abolished, with the smaller religious houses, and now only a few pointed arches remain in some of the offices to attest that such an edifice once occupied the site.

1533. Leeds is described at this time as:—"two miles lower than Christal Abbey, on Aire river, is a praty market,



1533.-1540.

having one parochie church, reasonably well buildid, and as large as Bradeford, but not so quik as it."

1536. York suffered a severe shock in the 27th of Henry VIII., when eighteen of its churches and all its chapels, hospitals, and monasteries were suppressed, and their materials and revenues converted to secular uses; the priests, the nuns, the sick and the old, being all turned out of their asylums, to starve, or beg their bread. In consequence of these sequestrations, and the alteration made in the established religion, a formidable insurrection was raised in Yorkshire, by Robert Aske, of Aughton, a gentleman of great courage and influence, who, with his colleagues, professing to take up arms in the cause of religion, called their march the "pilgrimage of grace," and soon collected 40,000 men under their standard. After taking York, Pontefract, and Hull, they were obliged to capitulate at Doncaster, where they received a general pardon, but several of their leaders again tried to excite new commotions, and were executed. Aske, the commander-in-chief, was hanged at York, on Clifford's tower, and Lord Darcy was beheaded, and his estates given to the Earl of Lenox.

1537. In order to make some amends for the devastation caused in the city of York by the suppression of religious houses, the court of the Lord President of the north was established in York, in the 28th of Henry VIII. This court was to determine all cases on the north side of the Trent, but was annihilated by the civil wars in the reign of Charles I. At the dissolution of monasteries, the amount of tithes paid by the different townships and estates in the parish of Leeds, was £48 2s.

1540. January 29th. The surrender of the Priory of Bolton in Craven, by Richard Moone, the prior, and the fourteen canons, bears this date. After this Bolton remained in the king's hands, till April 3rd, 1542, when the site and demesnes, together with many other estates, including the advowsons of the rectories of Keighley and Marton, were sold to Henry, Earl of Cumberland, for the sum of £2490.

Henry VIII., suppressed in England and Wales, 643 monasteries, 90 colleges, 3374 churches and chapels, and 110 hospitals, and had the Abbots of Reading, Glastonbury, and St. John's Colchester, hanged and quartered, for refusing to surrender their Abbeys, and for denying his supremacy.

Arthington Priory, near Harewood, was surrendered by Elizabeth Hall and nine nuns, November 26th. This priory stood very pleasantly in a deep vale, near the river Wharf.

1540-1547.

The site was granted to Thomas Cranmer, Archbishop of Canterbury.

1541. Henry VIII. spent twelve days in York. On his approach to the city he was met by the Archbishop, and 300 of his clergy in Barnesdale, who, on their knees, presented him with £600.

1542. The church of Barnoldswick bears this date, and is dedicated to St. Mary. It stands upon the brink of a deep glen, whence it has obtained the name of Gill church. In a ditch near this edifice was found several years ago, an old English tankard of wood, with a broad rim of copper, gilt, and richly chased, together with a small jar of bell metal. These were probably thrown there, in some of the plundering incursions of the Scots.—In the 34th of Henry VIII., an act was passed in favour of the citizens of York, which act recites, “that the poor of that city were daily employed in spinning, carding, dyeing, weaving, &c., for the making of coverlets, and that the same have not been made elsewhere in the same country till of late; that this manufacture had spread itself into other parts of the county, and was thereby debased and discredited; and therefore it is enacted, that none shall make coverlets in Yorkshire but the people of York.”

1543. By statute 34 and 35 Henry VIII., chap. 6.—“No person shall put to sale any pins, but only such as shall be double-headed, and have their heads soldered fast to the shank, and well smoothed; the shank well shaven; the point well and round filed, and sharpened.

1544. Robert Holgate, Archbishop of York, formed an hospital for ten men and ten women, at Hemsworth, six miles from Pontefract. The archbishop was deprived of his see by Queen Mary, because he was married. He was a native of Hemsworth.

1545. Sir John Savile was born this year at Bradley, in Stainland. He was called to the bar in 1586, was made one of the barons of the exchequer in 1598, and about the same time one of the justices of assizes. King James I. conferred on him the order of knighthood on July 23rd, 1603; being then one of the judges who attended the king's coronation. Died, Feb. 2nd, 1606.

Needles were first made in England this year by a native of India: the art was lost at his death but recovered by Christopher Greening, who settled at Long Grendon, (Bucks) where the manufacture is still carried on.

1547. In a certificate of the Archbishop of York, and others, (bearing this date, concerning chantries, &c., it is

1547.-1552.

said, "in the *parrysh* of *Hallifax* the number of houslyng people is eight thousand five hundred, and is a great wide parrysh." Camden says, in 1574 there were about 12,000 inhabitants in the parish, and "there were in it more human beings than beasts of every kind.

During the reign of Henry VIII., laws were passed directing that cloth of gold and tissue should be used only for dukes and marquises, and that purple should be kept for the royal family. Earls might use embroidery, and commoners of distinction, silks and velvets; the commonalty and serving-men were restricted to cloth of a certain price and lamb's fur, and were forbidden from wearing any ornaments, or even buttons, save the badge of their lord or master. The king likewise forbade his courtiers wearing long hair, according to the general fashion, and made them poll their heads, which led to the introduction of the peruke, after wards written *periwig*, and more shortly, wig.

1550. The *Sweating Sickness*, which either "mended or ended" its victims in twenty-four hours, carried off in this year many hundreds of the inhabitants of Leeds, York, and their neighbourhoods;—the funerals at Swillington were increased from 4 to 25, and augmented in the same ratio at Leeds and other places.——It was recommended, in a survey of the duke of Northumberland's estates, that the glass in the windows should be taken down and laid by in safety during the absence of the duke and his family, and be replaced on his return, as this would be attended with smaller cost than the repair rendered necessary by damage or decay.

1551. The first regular comedy performed in England was in this year. The first that we read of was at Athens, on a stage, 562 years before Christ; 27 years after which, the first tragedy was acted on a waggon by Thespis, and the first theatre ever erected was that of Bæchus, at the same classic city.

1552. The first endowment of the Free Grammar School, at Leeds, is contained in the will of Sir William Sheafeld, priest, dated the 6th of March this year, by which he vested in Sir John Neville, knight, and sixteen others, as co-feofees, (co-possessors), certain copyhold lands, situate near Sheepscar bridge, 'for finding sustentation and living of one honest, substantial, and learned man to be a schoole maister, to teach and instruct freely for ever, all such yonge scholars, youths, and children, as shall come and resort to him from time to time, to be taught, instructed, and in-

1552.-1553.

formed in such a school-house, as shall be founded, erected, and builded by the paryshioners of the said town and parish of Leedes'; upon condition, that if the parishioners should not find a school-house, and also purchase unto the school-master for the time being, a sufficient living of other lands, together with his gift, to the clear yearly value of £10 for ever, within four years after his decease, then the feoffees should stand seized to the use of the poor inhabitants of Leeds. The testator directed, that his feoffees and their heirs for ever, should have the nomination, election, and appointment of the said schoolmaster; and gave them power to put him out for reasonable cause at their discretion. 'The best man's voice to take no more place than the honest poorest man of them.' In 1554, certain copyhold premises were surrendered by Richard Bank and his wife for the use and support of the school. In 1555 a feoffment was made by Sir William Armistead, with this curious declaration annexed to it, that "the feoffees should employ the profits towards the finding of one priest, sufficiently learned to teach a free grammar school within the town of Leeds, for ever, for all such as should repair thereto, without taking any money more or less, for teaching of the said children or scholars, saving of one penny of every scholar, to mention his name in the master's book, if the scholar have a penny, and if not, to enter and continue freely without any paying." In 1595. certain copyhold premises were surrendered by John Moore and others, for the use and support of the same institution; and Christopher Hopton and others also surrendered a close, denominated the Calls, containing three acres, for the same purpose. Subsequent endowments in houses and lands were made by other parties. When the grammar school was first founded by Sir William Sheffield, the building, which was used for the purpose, was in a very incommodious situation, where the pinfold some years since stood, by the workhouse. Six years after, viz., in 1558, the "New chapel," which, in spite of its name, was a very old building, was purchased of queen Elizabeth, and used as the grammar school, and there the operations of the institution were carried on for the period of sixty-six years. (See 1624.)

1553. By an act of parliament passed this year, the number of taverns or public-houses in the city and liberties of London was limited to forty, and those in Westminster to three.—Michael Servetus, a French physician, first asserted the circulation of the blood; which was fully confirmed by our own countryman Harvey, in 1628.—When

1553.-1558.

Mary, the eldest daughter of Henry VIII. became queen, she repealed the acts of her brother and father, and restored the Catholics to power, but they were turned out again in 1558 by her sister Elizabeth, who attempted to extirpate the Catholic priests from her dominions, by making it death for them to be found in England, death to harbour them, and death for them to exercise their functions, so that about the 20th year of her reign, the old priesthood was nearly extinct.——During the reigns of Edward VI. and Mary, the flat round bonnet, or cap, of plain velvet or cloth was fashionable, and was worn on one side of the head, and decorated with a jewel and single ostrich feather. The bonnet itself is preserved in the caps worn at the present day by the boys of Christ's Hospital, and their blue coats and yellow stockings are such as were worn by the London apprentices at the date of the foundation of the hospital, by the youthful Edward.

1554 A law, enacted in the reign of Edward VI., which prohibited every one from making cloth, unless he had served an apprenticeship of seven years, was now repealed, and this plain reason given, "that it had occasioned the decay of the woollen manufacture, and had ruined several towns"; but this law, injurious as it is represented to have then been, was revived during the reign of Elizabeth.

1555. Died *Robert Farrar, the martyr*, who was born at Ewood, in Midgley. When a young man, he became a canon regular of the order of St. Austin. About 1533 he became chaplain to archbishop Cranmer, after whose example he married. He was the last prior of Nostel, in Yorkshire, to which was annexed the prebend of Bramham, in York cathedral. He surrendered his convent in 1540, and had a pension of £100 per annum allowed him, which he received until his promotion to the *Bishopric of St. David's*. When Mary ascended the throne, he was examined for his faith and doctrine by the bishop of Winchester and Dr. Morgan, and, refusing to renounce his heresies, schisms, and errors, as Morgan called them, he was condemned and burned at Caermarthen.

1556. On May 10, was interred *Robert Holdesworth, LL.D.*, vicar of Halifax, who was murdered by thieves in the night.

1557-8. In the reign of Philip and Mary, an act was passed in favour of Halifax, which recites that, "Whereas the town of Halifax being planted in the great waste and moors, where the fertility of the ground is not apt to bring forth any corn, nor good grass, but in rare places, and by

1558.

exceeding and great industry of the inhabitants, who altogether live by *cloth making*, and the greater part of them neither getteth corn, nor is able to keep a horse to carry wools, nor yet to buy much wool at once, but hath ever used to repair to the town of Halifax, and there to buy two or three stone, according to their ability, and to carry the same to their houses, three, four, or five miles off, upon their heads and backs, and so to make the same either into yarn or cloth, and to sell the same, and so to buy more wool of the *wool-driver*; by means of which industry, the barren grounds in those parts be much inhabited, and above five hundred householders there newly increased within these forty years past, which are like now to be undone, and driven to beggary by reason of the late statute, (37th Henry VIII), that taketh away the *wool-driver*, so that now they cannot have their wool by the same small quantity or portions as they were wont to have; and that also they are not able to keep any horses whereupon to ride, or fetch their wools further from them in other places, unless some remedy may be provided." It was therefore enacted, "That it should be lawful to any person or persons, inhabiting within the parish of Halifax, to buy any wool or wools at such time as the clothiers may buy the same, otherwise than by engrossing and forestalling, so that the persons buying the same do carry the said wools to the town of Halifax, and there to sell the same to such *poor folks* of that and other parishes adjoining, as shall work the same in cloth or yarn, to their knowledge, and not to the rich and *wealthy clothier*, or any other to sell again; offending against this act to forfeit double the value of the wool so sold."

1558. The "NEW CHAPEL," which stood near the North bar, in Leeds, and which was a very old building was purchased of queen Elizabeth, and used for a public grammar school till 1624, when Mr. Harrison "removed the school to a pleasant field of his own, which he surrounded with a substantial wall."—It is supposed to have been the chantry of St. Mary, from which Lady-lane and Lady-well have their names. In the 37th Henry VIII., it was valued at £8 13s. per annum, and its last priest of which there is any notice, was Ipofer Bradley, who, according to the register, was buried in St. Peter's church, the 26th of October, 1563. At this period the common bakehouse (Commune Furnum) in the old square, Kirkgate, Leeds, was in existence, and is thus spoken of by Thoresby and his commentators:—"At the upper end of Kirkgate, over against

1558.-1563.

the prison, was that necessary evil in a *populus* town, a common bakehouse, which John Metcalf farmed of queen Elizabeth at £12 per annum, but which by the survey appeared to yield £120 per annum.

1559. Jan. 1st. Soon after Elizabeth's accession to the throne, the church service was ordered to be performed in English, and a complete reformation of the church immediately followed.——Queen Elizabeth first appeared in silk stockings. — The glory of the Elizabethan era of female costume, as well as its most remarkable characteristics in the sixteenth century, was the *ruff* of plaited linen or cambric, which arose from the front of the shoulders behind the head, nearly to its full height; from the bosom descended a huge stomacher, on each side of which projected the immense farthingale or hooped petticoat. At this time the material of the ruff having been changed from holland to lawn or cambric, a difficulty arose as to starching or stiffening it, instead of the clumsy mode of supporting it by poking-sticks of ivory, wood, or gilt metal. At length the art of starching was brought from Flanders, and taught in London for a fee of four or five pounds. The ruff was fashionable long after this time, for we find it anathematised from the pulpit in a sermon preached before the king at Whitehall, in 1607-8, as 'her French, her Spanish, and her foolish fashions; her plumes, her fannes, and a silken vizard; with a ruff like a sail, yea, a ruff like a *rainbow*; with a feather in her cap like a flag in her top, to tell which way the wind will blow.' "Divers noble personages (says honest John Stowe) made them ruffs a full quarter of a yard deep, and two lengths in one ruff." To correspond with the ladies' farthingales, the bucks of the day stuffed out their breeches with rags, feathers, and other light matters, till they brought them out to a most enormous size, resembling woolpacks. In the preceeding reign of Mary, the fashion ran on square toes; in-somuch that a proclamation was issued, that no person should wear shoes above six inches square at the toes! Then succeeded pricked-pointed shoes.——*Christopher Ashburn* was inducted vicar of Halifax; he was the first Protestant who held that benefice.

1562. April 23rd. Shakespere was this day born at Stratford-upon Avon, in Warwickshire. He died on his birthday in 1614, aged fifty-two years.

1563. By 5th Elizabeth, chap. 5, sec. 40, "Whoever shall by preaching, teaching, writing, or open speech, notify that eating fish, or any forbearing of flesh, is of any ne-



1563.-1569.

cessity for saving the soul of man, shall be punished as spreaders of false news are and ought to be."

1564. This year died John Calvin aged fifty-five.

A great *flood* in the Ouse at York, swept away two arches of the bridge with twelve houses that stood upon them. Several lives were lost in this inundation.

1565. *Matthew Lister*, M.D. was born at Thornton, in Craven, and became physician in ordinary to queen Anne of Denmark, by the recommendation of the illustrious Anne, countess of Pembroke, and afterwards to king Charles I. from whom he received the honour of knighthood in 1636: lastly he attained to the summit of medical honours, by being appointed President of the college of Physicians. He died in 1657, at Burwell, in Lincolnshire, aged ninety-two.——Sir John Clarke buried December 9th, was priest of the ancient chapel which stood at the north end of Leeds bridge.

1568. *Roger Askham*, a native of one of the Askhams, near York, died January 5th. He was celebrated for his learning, and was tutor and latin secretary to queen Elizabeth. His work, called "The Schoolmaster," was published after his death by his widow, whom, with her children, he left in great distress.——On October 11th, this year, died *Roger Brook*, of Halifax, aged 133 years.——October 4. At a conference held at York, the cause of Mary queen of Scots, was examined into. In January, 1569, she was imprisoned in Tutbury castle; in 1586, it is said, she conspired against the life of her cousin, queen Elizabeth; was removed to Fotheringay castle in the same year, and was sentenced on the 25th of October to die. She was beheaded at Fotheringay, February 8th, 1587.

1569. An insurrection broke out in the north, in the reign of queen Elizabeth, under the leading of the earls of Northumberland and Westmorland. The professed objects of the conspirators were to restore the Roman Catholic religion, and advance Mary queen of Scots to the throne of England. Their first demonstration was at Durham, where they tore in pieces the bibles and prayer books in the English tongue which they found in the churches. They next marched southward, and arrived at Ripon on the 18th November. After putting Sir William Ingilby to flight, they marched to Knaresborough, thence to Wetherby, and at length to Clifford-moor, when they found their army numbered but 1,600 horse and 4,000 foot. They afterwards besieged and took Barnard castle. A force of 7,000 men marched from York against the rebels, who were soon



1569.-1582.

dispersed; but many of them were killed or captured in their flight. Sixty-six of the prisoners were hanged at Durham, amongst whom was Plomtree, a noted priest. Among the prisoners were Simon Digby, of Aisken; John Fulthorpe, of Islebeck; Robert Pennyman, of Stockesly; and Thomas Bishop, of Pocklington; all of whom were, on the Good Friday following, (1570) hanged, beheaded, and quartered, and their heads were set upon the four principal gates of the city. Not less than 800 persons are said in the whole to have suffered by the hands of the executioner. The earl of Westmoreland escaped; but Northumberland was afterwards taken, and beheaded Aug. 22, 1572, on a scaffold in the Pavement, at York. This was the last open attempt made to restore the Roman Catholic religion in this kingdom.—“A rule to knowe how many dayes euery moneth in the yere hath. Thirty dayes hath Nouember, Aprill, June, and September—February hath xxviii. alone, and all the rest have xxxi.; but in the leape you must adde one.” Gafton’s Chronicles of England, 1570. 8vo.

1571. By statute 13th Elizabeth, chap. 19, “All persons above the age of seven years, shall wear upon Sabbath and Holy days upon their heads, a cap of wool, knit, thicked, and dressed in England, upon pain to forfeit, for every day not wearing, three shillings and fourpence.”

1572. The Leeds Parish Church register of burials, baptisms, and marriages, commences on the 20th of May, this year.

1573. The head of the earl of Northumberland, who had suffered decapitation in 1572, was stolen in the night from Micklegate bar, in the city of York.—During this year a considerable earthquake was experienced in York.

A prison was erected on Ouse bridge, York, about this time.

1577. The following passage is in Harrison’s description of Great Britain, printed in 1577 :—“In the reign of Henry VIII., there were hanged *seventy-two thousand* thieves and rogues, (besides other malefactors); this makes about two thousand a year. But in queen Elizabeth’s time, the same author says, there were only between three and four hundred a year hanged for theft and robbery.—*Silver ore* was found in the township of Rimington, in Craven, which yielded after the rate of 26 lbs. of silver per ton.

Captain Drake first discovered California.

1582. In order to further correct the calendar, (see 45 B.C.) Gregory XIII., after deep study and calculation,

1582-1584.

ordained that ten days should be deducted from this year, by calling what according to the old calendar, would have been reckoned the 5th of October, the 15th of October, 1582. The Catholic nations in general adopted this purely scientific improvement; but the Protestants adhered to the old style for nearly two centuries. (see 1751.)

1533. In the Birch collections at the British museum, reference is made to the age of the countess of Desmond, as follows:—"The olde countess of Desmond was a married woman in Edward IV's time, of England, and lived till towards the end of queen Elizabeth: soe as she needes must be 140 yeares old—she had a new sett of teeth not long before her death; for she must needes climb a nutt tree to gather nutts, soe falling downe, she hurt her thigh, which brought a fever, and that fever brought death."——The advowson of the vicarage of Leedes purchased by the parisioners of Oliver Darneley, for £130.

——The stone stairs, or "*Grieece on the west syde of the bridge at Ledes,*" were built this year with stone brought from "*Christall Abbaye,*" when labourers' wages were 6d. a day, whereas now, says Thoresby, "they are hardly content with the double." These stairs led to "the *Tentures.*" A pair of tenters were then about twenty-six or twenty-eight yards long—cloth being generally made into "dozens" or short cloths, but about the year 1700, pieces of cloth upwards of sixty yards long were made. Near the "*Grieece,*" was Embsey bridge, crossing to the land now insulated, and called the "Isle of Cinder."

1584. Dec. The following extract from the register of burials at the Leeds Parish Church, is curious and characteristic of this time:—"Rychard Lumbye, of the Chappilltounne, being a Papist, not comyng to the church the space of xij years, being indyeted at the gen'all and peace sessions, vpo the statute, pscuted as the . . . of Papists; excommunicate, Dyed at Chappilltounne the third day of December, and was by hys kynsfolk and neighbours brought towards the churche to be buryed, but at the church yerd gate stopped by the vicar and churchwardeners; the corps remaned till the tenth day of the same moneth at night, and hys frends could not gett lycens to burye hym, going to York for yt purpose, hys said corpse was in the night conveyed and buryed."

The register of burials at the Leeds Parish Church contains the following:—"1592, Aprill 28. Grace Birekhead, bothe meke and mylde, in one chiste she and her child"

*Corpus Christi Plays* were annually performed at York till this year (1584) by the ancient Guild or Fraternity of Corpus Christi, and the other free companies of that city. These theatrical exhibitions were performed on the festival

1584.-1603

of Corpus Christi in most of the cities and principal towns of England.

1585. The free grammar school of queen Elizabeth, at *Halifax*, was founded this year.

1586. *Farnley-hall*, erected by Sir William Denby, was taken down in 1755, and the materials sold.

1587. This year the burials at Leeds were tripled by the *Plague*. At Rothwell, in the following year, they increased from 34 to 127.

1588. The Spanish Armada, consisting of 130 ships, with 50,000 men, arrived in the English channel, but were dispersed by a storm, July 27th, when many were wrecked, and others burnt and taken.——The first English newspaper was printed this year, called “The English Mercury.”

1589. John Thornburgh, S. T. P., appointed Dean of York. He held the bishopricks of Limerick and Bristol in *commendam*, and was removed to the bishoprick of Worcester, in 1617.——Coaches first brought into England.

1590. HOWLEY HALL, in Batley parish, built by Sir John Savile, the *first honorary alderman of Leeds*. After standing for a century and a half, the pride and admiration of the neighbourhood, it was, at the instigation of a faithless agent, blown up with gunpowder by order of the earl of Cardigan, in 1730.——The thermometer was invented about this time, by Sanctorie.

1591. Henry, the fifth and *last earl of Cumberland*, was born at Londesborough. He had the misfortune to see the beginning of the great rebellion, and the happiness to be taken from the calamities which followed. He was much favoured by king James and king Charles I., and died of a burning fever at one of the prebends' houses in York, 1643, and was interred at Skipton, amidst the “roar of arms.” when his castle was held for the king, against all the assaults of the rebels.

1592. Wakefield grammar school founded.

1600. About this time Beeston, near Leeds, was famous for the manufacture of bone lace.

1603. Queen Elizabeth commanded the Roman catholics in York, to be present at three sermons preached in the cathedral of that city, by *archbishop, Matthew Hutton*. At the first two sermons, they behaved so obstreperously, that it was found necessary to stop the mouths of some of them before silence could be obtained. At the third sermon, there was a very great audience: the lord presi-

1603.-1604.

dent, the queen's council, the lord mayor and aldermen, and the principal gentry of the county being present, yet the catholics stopped their ears, rather than listen to the venerable prelate's discourse.——By statute 1st, James I, chap. 9, "If any alehouse-keeper shall sell less than a full quart of ale for a penny, or of the small ale two quarts for one penny, he shall forfeit for every such offence the sum of twenty shillings."——Queen Elizabeth died at one o'clock of the morning of Thursday, the 24th of March, 1603. Between nine and ten, Sir Robert Carey left London (after having been up all night) for the purpose of conveying the intelligence to her successor James, at Edinburgh. That night he rode to Doncaster, 155 miles; next night he reached Witherington, near Morpeth; early on Saturday morning he proceeded by Norham across the border; and that evening, at no late hour, kneeled beside the king's bed at Holyrood, and saluted him as king of England, France, and Ireland. He had thus travelled 400 miles in three days, resting during the two intermediate nights.——*Wm Witham*, of Ledston, (who died in 1593), was popularly supposed to be bewitched to death by one Mary Pannel, who, having been long celebrated for supposed sorceries, was accused and convicted at York in 1603, and executed on a hill near Ledston-hall, to this day called Mary Pannel hill.

In the reign of James I. nine tenths of the commerce of the kingdom consisted of woollen goods. Most of the cloth was exported *raw*, and was *dyled* and *dressed* by the Dutch, who it is said gained £700,000 a year by this employment. A proclamation against exporting cloth in a raw state had succeeded so ill during one year, by the refusal of the Dutch to buy the dressed cloth, that great murmurs arose against it.——The plague re-appeared in London, in this and the following year no less than 68 596 persons died from that visitation.

1604. *The Yorkshire Tragedy*, attributed to the pen of Shakespeare, is "founded on facts" which occurred this year at CALVERLEY HALL, near Bradford, the residence for six centuries of a family of its own name. The story is as follows:—Walter Calverley, the son and heir of William Calverley, Esq. married at the close of the 16th century, Philippa, daughter of Sir John Brooke, by whom he had three sons, William, Walter, and Henry. Dissipation and other vices of the head of this ill-fated family, had plunged them into extreme embarrassments, and under the influence of intoxication, jealousy, or intolerable apprehension that

1604.

his children would become beggars, he came to the desperate resolution to be himself their murderer. The intelligence that his brother had been committed to prison in consequence of a security given for Walter, brought on the crisis which he had contemplated, and observing his eldest son, a boy four years old, at play in the gallery of Calverley hall, the unnatural father rushed upon him, and inflicted two or three wounds with his dagger. He then seized upon the bleeding child, and carried him to the room of his mother, who was asleep, while the nurse was dressing another of the children in the room. The unhappy mother roused from her slumbers by the violent entry of her husband, soon became aware of the danger which threatened her children, and endeavoured to save the second child from his fury, but all her efforts were in vain, and he plunged the reeking dagger into its heart, while clasped in its mother's arms. His fury was then directed against his lady, and he inflicted upon her several severe wounds. Still unsatiated with blood, he took his horse and rode off for the village where his infant child was at nurse, but as he entered the place, he was thrown from his horse, and secured by a servant, who had been despatched after him. On the following day he was taken before Sir John Savile, of Howley, and Sir Thomas Bland, knights, two of the magistrates of the West-Riding, in whose presence he confessed his crime, adding, that he had harboured the intention of killing his children for two years past, and that "the reason that moved him thereunto was, for that his wife had many times heretofore uttered speeches and given signs and tokens unto him whereby he might easily perceive and conjecture, that the said children were not by him begotten, and that he had found himself to be in danger of his life sundry times by his said wife." At the close of the examination, he was committed to gaol, but as the plague then raged in York, he was sent to Wakefield. Subsequently he was removed to York, where he was brought to trial, but refused to plead either guilty or not guilty; "he was adjudged to be pressed to death; according to which judgment he was executed in the castle, at York, the 5th of August, 1604." The innocent lady of this high-born malefactor recovered from her wounds, and his son Henry succeeded to the estate and chattels, the latter of which, his father, by refusing to plead on his trial, had saved from forfeiture. The estate remained in the Calverley family till the year 1754, when Sir Walter Calverley, who took the name of Blackett, sold the manor

1604.-1607.

and estate of Calverley to Thomas Thornhill, of Fixby, Esq., by whose heir, Thomas Thornhill, Esq., of Fixby, in Yorkshire, and Riddlesworth, in Norfolk, it is still possessed. The hall is now occupied by a number of labouring families in separate tenements. In York, 3,512 persons died of the plague. In consequence of this contagion, the assizes were held at Wakefield, and prince Charles passed through Leeds to London instead of going by York.——The vicar of Calverley and five of his parishioners executed a certificate which was presented to the judges of assize at York, wherein they declared “that Robert Hare, Isabella Hare his mother, Ann Brigg and Elizabeth Birkenstaye, all of their own parish, were vehemently suspected of the *devilish art, of witchcraft,*” and that they had done much hurt and mischief to their neighbours for the space of twenty years past. The object of this deposition was to “root out abominable witchcraft,” but whether it had any reference to the horrid murders just committed by their landlord at Calverley hall, is not recorded.

1605. The disappointment of the Catholics on finding that the severe laws against them were not to be relaxed, led to a conspiracy called the gunpowder plot, which was to have been put in force on the meeting of parliament, Nov. 5th, this year. It was arranged that the House of Lords should be blown up by gunpowder, at the moment when the king, lords, and commons, were all assembled in it, thus, destroying as they thought, all their chief enemies at one blow, and making way for a new government which should be more favourable to them. Accordingly, thirty-four barrels of powder were deposited in the cellars beneath the House, and a person named Guy Fawkes was prepared to kindle it at the proper time. The plot was discovered in consequence of the receipt of a letter by lord Monteagle, warning him not to attend the meeting of parliament.

1607. A terrible flood devastated the south-western counties of England and Wales, whereby twenty-six parishes in Monmouthshire were entirely swept away, and the counties of Somerset, Gloucester, Glamorgan, Cardigan, and Caermarthen, were fearfully overflowed by the sea: 500 persons perished, and many thousands were utterly ruined. The counties of Norfolk, Bedford, Cambridge, Lincoln, Huntingdon, and Kent, were also visited in the most sudden manner at the same time, with a similarly fatal calamity. At Wisbeach, the sea inundated the

1607.-1612.

town, overthrowing an inn called the Cross Keys, in which numerous guests were assembled. At Yarmouth, the bridge was carried away; and off the coast, numberless vessels were wrecked and their crews lost. At Numby Chapel, the whole town was lost except three houses; and so deep was the water here, that a ship was driven in from the sea upon a house, the sailors thinking it had been a rock. The crew were saved by clinging to the ruins of the house. At Grimsby, the salt-works were rendered useless; and the bridge at Wentworth, a model piece of architecture in those times, was swept away. The greatest destruction was amongst the sheep: several thousands being totally lost.—A number of Roman coins and moulds were this year found at Lingwellgate, near Wakefield.

1608. "A new stall in the old church at Leeds made for Thomas and Peter Jackson, as they had no room anywhere in the church to sit."—*Churchwarden's accounts.*

1609. In this year the Leeds soke originated, by letters patent, granted by James I. to Edward Ferrers, of London, mercer, and Francis Phelips, of the same place, gentleman. The mills to which this grant applied, are supposed to have stood in Swinegate, at the place known by the name of the "Mill Goit." The origin of this custom is very remote. In ancient times, each family ground its corn in hand-mills. When water-mills were invented, their introduction was eagerly desired, and no one being found able to build them in some poor districts, the king was petitioned to erect mills in various places, to which he consented, on condition that the inhabitants would bind themselves and their heirs for ever, to grind at such mills, on the terms then agreed on. During the Crusades, many privileges and immunities were granted to the Knights Templars; and among these were the exemption of their lands from certain taxes, and from the soke of the mills. The houses thus exempt, were marked by crosses.—A frost which commenced in October, lasted four months: the Thames being so frozen over, that heavy carriages were driven over it.

1610. June 4th. A terrible fire broke out at Bury St. Edmunds, in Suffolk, which destroyed 160 houses, and reduced several people to great extremities. About this time, also, a malignant and putrid fever raged throughout the country, which carried off vast numbers of the people.

1612. The church of Burnsal, in Craven, was repaired and beautified by *Sir William Craven, knight*, and alderman of the city of London, and late lord mayor of the same. He also erected and endowed a grammar school in the village.



1612.-1614.

He was born at Appletrewick, in the parish of Burnsall, of poor parents, who consigned him to a common carrier for his conveyance to London, where he entered into the service of a mercer-draper, and, by diligence and frugality, raised himself to wealth and honour. In 1611 he was chosen lord mayor.——In 1612, twelve persons were executed at Lancaster for witchcraft; in 1622, six at York; in 1634, seventeen in Lancashire; in 1644, sixteen at Yarmouth; in 1645, fifteen at Chelmsford; and in 1645-6, one hundred and twenty in Suffolk and Huntingdon. The monster Matthew Hopkins and his assistants were regular authorized witch-finders, and undertook to clear any locality of witches for the sum of 20s., bringing them to confession and the stake in the following manner:—he stripped them naked, shaved them, and thrust pins into their bodies to discover the witch's mark; he wrapped them in sheets, with the great toes and thumbs tied together, and dragged them through ponds or rivers, when, if they sunk, it was held as a sign that the baptismal element did not reject them, and they were cleared; but, if they floated, (as they usually would do for a time), they were then set down as guilty, and doomed. He kept them fasting and awake, and sometimes incessantly walking for twenty-four or forty-eight hours, as an inducement to confession. If a witch could not shed tears at command, or if she hesitated at a single word in repeating the Lord's prayer, she was held to be in league with the evil one. The results of these and such like tests, were actually and universally admitted as evidence by the administrators of the law, who, acting upon them, condemned all such as had the amazing constancy to hold out against the tortures inflicted. Butler has described Hopkins in his 'Hudibras' as one

“Fully empowered to treat about  
 Finding revolted witches out,  
 And has he not within this year  
 Hanged *three score* of them *in one shire*?  
 Some only for *not* being drowned;  
 And some for sitting above ground.”

After Hopkins had pursued his trade of witch-finding for a many years, he was subjected to his own favourite test of swimming—he escaped with his life, but was never heard of more.

1614. Robert Cooke, B.D., (otherwise Gale) said to have been the most noted disputant of his time, was vicar of Leeds, and died January 1st, this year. Of his brother and

1614.-1619.

successor, Alexander Cooke, B.D., Wood, the author of *Athenæ Oxoniensis*, says, "that he was admirably read in the controversies between the Protestants and Papists, versed in the fathers and schoolmen, witty and ingenious, but a great Calvinist!" He died in June, 1632.

1615. A Bill of Complaint was exhibited in Chancery on the 3rd of November, in the names of some of the most wealthy and influential inhabitants of the district; in which, it is said, that the town and parish of Leeds had become very large and populous, and contained more than 5000 communicants, and that, although some of them were three or four miles distant from the church, yet three or four thousand of them ordinarily resorted thither every Sabbath day.

1617. This year James I. issued his royal proclamation, called "*The Book of Sports*," which he ordered to be read in all churches, for the purpose of legalising and encouraging the exercise of gymnastic and other sports and games after divine service on Sunday afternoons.

The inhabitants of the city and county petitioned in vain for the establishment of an *university in York*.

1618. July 5th, James Hay, first *Baron Hay*, by patent, was created *Viscount Doncaster*, a title which became extinct in 1660; but in 1663, *James Fitz Roy*, (who assumed the name of Scot), natural son of Charles II., was created *Earl of Doncaster*, by patent, February 14. He was beheaded in 1685, when the title was forfeited, but was restored to his heir, Francis Scot, third earl of Dalkeith, March 23rd, 1743.——At this time there was a park at Bingley, and a castle near the church, on a hill called Baily-hill.

1619. A commission which sat this year for the purpose of enquiring into the due administration of public charities, it was found that the several messuages, lands, annual rent charges, and sums of money in the inquisition particularly specified, were given by the persons, or acquired in the manner in the inquisition mentioned, for the reparation of the highways in and near Leeds, the use of the poor of the parish of Leeds, and the maintenance and support of the free grammar school of Leeds. It was also found that the Moot Hall, then lately erected in the town, was built out of the money belonging to the poor; but that John Metcalf, the under bailiff of the town, had converted the rent of part of the building to his own use. It was also found, that by a decree of the court of the Duchy of Lancaster, toll was taken of all corn exposed in the market for sale, called the "Toll dish,"

1619-1623.

which was distributed as follows:—one third to the bailiff, then the principal officer in the town for his own use; one third for the use of the poor; and the other third was used to repair the highways. These tolls were collected by the said John Metcalf and also appropriated to his own use. The Commissioners by their Decree ordered a committee to be appointed to manage the said charities, and to see that the profits arising therefrom should be apportioned in manner before mentioned. The collection of the toll was abandoned about the close of the last century, on account of its being only about £70 per annum, and the great opposition experienced by the officers in its collection.——The duke of Buckingham, in 1619, first used a coach with six horses,—a piece of pomp which the duke of Northumberland thought proper to ridicule by setting up one with eight. Charles I. was the first British sovereign who had a state carriage.

1620. *Dr. Williams*, dean of Westminster, and subsequently archbishop of York, received the seal of office, which were taken from the learned *lord chancellor Bacon*, who was convicted of bribery, sentenced to pay a fine of £40,000, and to be imprisoned during the king's pleasure.

Adam Baynes, Esq. of Knostrop, "Parliament man for Leeds," during the Commonwealth, was born Dec. 22nd, this year, *obit* Dec. 1670.——A board of Trade was instituted by James I. One of the reasons assigned in the commission was "to remedy the low price of wool, which begat complaints of the decay of the woollen manufacture." Though the price of wool afterwards rose to thirty-three shillings a *tod* (28lbs.) nine-tenths of the commerce of the kingdom consisted of woollen goods. The exportation of wool was forbidden by proclamation, and the company of Merchant Adventurers, by patent, possessed the sole commerce of the woollen manufacture.

1621. The power of licensing public houses was first granted to Sir Giles Montpesson and Sir Francis Michel.

1622. Feb. 14. A terrible accident occurred at Blackfriars in London, which obtained the name of the 'Fatal Vespers.' The Roman catholics had met in considerable numbers to celebrate the mass, when the floor giving way, the whole congregation were suddenly engulfed, and upwards of a hundred persons lost their lives.

1623. March 10th. Died Dr. John Favour, for thirty years vicar of Halifax, and author of antiquity triumphing over novelty. "In this vicar's time there lived in the town, one Richard Commons, an Irishman, by occupation a goldsmith, a common drunkard and blasphemer of God's holy word,

1623.-1626.

when he had spent all he cou'd make, he set fire to some straw in the four corners of his house, (now the Angel Inn,) and hanged himself in the midst. Thus desperately he died, but by God's merciful providence the straw took not fire, and so both house and town were preserv'd, which he purpos'd to burn. He was buried a little above the town, in a place where four ways meet, now well known by the name of *Goldsmith's Grave*."—Wright's antiquities of Halifax, printed at Leeds in 1738.

1624. *John Lake* was born at Halifax, where he received his first education at the grammar school; thence he was sent to St. John's college, Cambridge, where, before he was thirteen years of age, he took the degree of B.A. In 1660 he was, after much opposition, inducted vicar of Leeds. On October 9th, 1680, he was installed archdeacon of Cleveland, and consecrated bishop of Sodor and Man, in 1682. He was translated to Bristol in 1684, and to Chichester in 1685. He died August 30th, 1689, and was buried in St. Botolph's church, London.——In this year the benevolent John Harrison "built the Leeds grammar school in North-street, in the middle of half an acre of his own land, and enclosed it with a fair stone wall." The following is an extract from his will, in which he refers to this beneficial endowment:—"Whereas, I have of my own charge and upon my own land, erected and builded one new house, now used and employed for a grammar school, and walled the yard thereunto belonging with a stone wall, as the same abutteth upon the lands of Henry Royds upon the north, and upon my own lands upon the south-east and west—my mind and will is, that the same shall be for a master and ushers to teach scholars in for ever, and for that end and purpose, I do give the said house, garth, and wall, &c." An apartment, used as a library, was added by Godfrey Lawson, Esq., in 1792. The library comprised several ancient books, including folio editions of some of the works of the fathers. The Rev. Samuel Pullen, afterwards archbishop of Tuam, was first master of this seminary.

1625. March 27th. Charles I. ascended the throne, and in June of the same year, London was again visited with the plague, which swept away 35,417 persons.——An act passed for the incorporation of the manufacturers of *Sheffield*, by the name of the company of Cutlers of Hallamshire.

1626. The borough of Leeds was incorporated by Charles I.——The first mayor was Sir John Savile, afterwards lord Savile, whose arms, known by the name of "*Hullarts*," was adopted by the town. John Clayton, Esq. was the

1626.-1633.

first recorder, and George Bannister the first town clerk. By this charter it is seen that the market was formerly held on a Monday.—Lord Bacon died this year, aged sixty-five. He rose from a comparatively humble position, to be lord high chancellor of England.

1628. June 5th. The south-east pinnacle and corner of the steeple of *Halifax Church* were struck off by lightning, and the stones which fell broke down much of the timber, slate, and battlement.

1629. The Leeds Workhouse, then called the house of correction, was built this year, and enlarged in 1636, and again in 1736.

1630. *Armley chapel of Ease* was built about this time, but was not consecrated as a burial place till 1674. In 1765 the vicar of Leeds and the inhabitants had a long contest for the presentation to this chapel, and the lord chancellor decreed in favour of the former in 1766.—Sir John Savile, of Howley, died August 31st, this year, aged seventy-four.

1631. The manor of Wakefield was granted by the crown to the *earl of Holland*, whose daughter, about twenty years afterwards, was married to Sir Gervase Clifton, knight and bart., to whom he gave the manor of Wakefield as her marriage portion. Not long afterwards Sir Gervase Clifton sold it to Sir Christopher Clapham, whose heirs again disposed of it in 1700, to the *duke of Leeds*, in the possession of whose family it still remains.

1632. March 15th, Henry Ramsden, vicar of Halifax, granted Richard Sunderland, Esq., of Copley, a license to eat flesh during the time of his illness, as the law of the land in that case provided, and on the 18th March, the same license was granted to Abraham Sunderland, of high Sunderland.—In the Leeds parish register of this date, (November ii. or xx.) is this note, "Richard Sawyer, of Vicar-lane, had two strange children baptized, named *Richards: Duere et Mirare.*" Tradition reports them to have been joined together, having but one body below the navel.

✓ 1633. The contests between king Charles I. and the Parliament shook Yorkshire to its centre, but before they had commenced, the king was entertained three days in York, on his way from Scotland. While in York he knighted the lord mayor, the recorder, and the archbishop's son.

Charles I. visited Pontefract, when he created Sir John Savile, knight, high steward of the honour of Pontefract, and, by letters patent, advanced him to the dignity of a baron of the realm, by the title of *baron Savile of Pontefract.*,

1633.-1638.

His son inherited the title, and was created earl of Sussex, but the family became extinct in his grandson James.

The corporation of Hull sent two casks of sturgeon, with a butt of sack, to the archbishop of York, who, in return, sent "two lovely bucks," as venison for the mayor and aldermen.

1634. St. John's church, in Leeds, was built by John Harrison, Esq., of *Pawdmyre*, who commenced it in 1631, and finished it in 1634, having endowed it with £80 per annum, besides £10 a year for repairs. It was consecrated September 21st, 1634, by archbishop Neile. The first minister was the Rev. Robert Todd, M.A., who was suspended on the very day he commenced his function.——This year the *Corporation Charter of Halifax parish* and the government of the workhouse was granted. In 1635 orders were made for such strangers as were likely to become chargeable to the town to be removed. Such as kept them in their families contrary to order were fined or compelled to give security that they should not become chargeable to the town. Those who were convicted of swearing, using or keeping gaming houses, and tippling at unseasonable hours, were fined; such as embezzled or spoiled their work, or were idle, unruly, or made a practice of begging, were whipped, set to work, or sent to their place of settlement.

1635. *Sir Arthur Ingram's* house at Temple Newsome was burnt down and "household stuff" worth £4000 consumed.——The *plague* raged at Hull till 1638, and carried off 2,730 persons, besides leaving as many more in extreme want. Collections were made for the surviving sufferers throughout England.

1636. Hunslet chapel was built this year, and enlarged in 1774.

1638. In the chapel-yard of Ribston, is placed a very curious *sepulchral monument* of a standard bearer of the 9th Roman Legion, which was dug up in the year 1630 in Trinity gardens, near Micklegate, in York. The stone is six feet high, and two feet in breadth—the top of an angular form: near the bottom of the stone is a Latin inscription, above which stands the figure of a Roman soldier, with the ensign of a cohort or manipulus in his right hand, and a corn meter in his left, (corn being once part of the pay of a Roman soldier). The inscription is thus translated:—"L. Lucius Rufinus, of Vienne, son of Lucius of the Voltinian tribe, (and) Standard-bearer of the 9th Legion for twenty-eight years, is buried here."

1638.-1639.

Brian Fairfax, Esq., rescued this antique relic from being demolished by the workmen, who had broken it in the middle, and were about to prepare it for building-stone.

It appears from the household book at *Skipton Castle*, that the luxuries of life were extremely dear at this time; there is an item which says, "paid for four score lb. of *sugar* for my lady £4"; but all the common necessities of life were very cheap; animal food, in particular, bore a low price; a fat wether would not have purchased two pounds of sugar. Another item in 1633-4 says, "paid to Captayne Robinson, by my lord's command for writing letters of news to his lordship for half-a-year £5." Before the introduction of printed newspapers, it appears that the great families had *gazetteers* in London, who transmitted to them the news of the day in written letters, and the practice was continued by this family till the year 1687.——John Harrison, Esq., having founded, erected, and endowed the church or chapel of St. John the Evangelist, in Leeds, by indenture dated the 6th September, this year, vested the patronage or advowson thereof, in the vicar of the parish church, and the alderman and three of the senior principal burgesses of the town and borough for the time being. By the 73rd sec. of the Municipal Corporation Act, any four members of the council of the borough are eligible to be elected trustees along with the vicar.——In 1638, the alderman of the borough received a writ sent at the suggestion of the king for Leeds to pay its quota of ship money, namely, £70, to provide a fleet to protect the trade of the kingdom.

The directions for the levying of the money were:—"First, ther is required expedic'on; secondly, that noe poore labouring people be assessed, but such as have estates in lands or goods, or live by some gainful trade, for it is conceived that the assessing poore people will cause a clamour and p'judice the service, which, in itself, is most honourable and just; thirdly, that the clergie be used with all favour."

1639. About this time, John Harrison, Esq., the great benefactor to Leeds, purchased Rockley-hall, in that town, which was made of wood, and of a very antique form; instead of deal boards for floors, oak planks were used, and of such a thickness that joists were made of them for part of the new brick building that succeeded it in name and place. This he gave to pious uses. Alderman Harrison also founded the hospital near St. John's, in Leeds.



1639.

In the reign of Charles I., a Mrs. Isabel Denton, of Beeston, near Leeds, invented straw hats and bonnets. Necessity in this case was truly the mother of invention, for this woman was cursed with a prodigal husband, and had to provide for a numerous family by her own skill and labour. Her hats and bonnets had a ready and profitable sale, and thus she was able to maintain her family in comfort and respectability until her death. At this time one firm in Leeds sold £7000 worth of bonnets in a year.

1639 to 1644.—CIVIL WARS.—Eight years after Charles I. had mounted the British throne, and before evil advisers had embroiled him with his parliament and people, he visited the city of York, on his way from Scotland to London, and received a loyal and cordial welcome. Six years afterwards, on the 30th of March, 1639, the Scots having broken out into open rebellion, the king came down to York, on an expedition against the insurgents. During the king's residence in York, he kept the festival, called "*Maunday Thursday*," in the cathedral.

The king of England was accustomed on *Maunday Thursday*, (the day before Good Friday, called also *Shere Thursday*, from the practice which the priests had of shearing their hair on this day to make themselves as trim as possible for Easter,) to have brought before him as many poor men as he was years old whose feet he washed with his own hands, after which his majesty's maunds, consisting of meat, clothes, and money were distributed amongst them. This strange ceremonial, was last performed in its full extent by James II. King William left the washing to his Almoner; and such was the arrangement many years afterwards. '*Thursday*, April 15th, (1731,) being *Maunday Thursday*, there was distributed at Whitehall to forty-eight poor men, and forty-eight poor women, (the king's [Geo. II.] age being forty-eight,) boiled beef and shoulders of mutton, and small bowls of ale; after that large wooden platters of fish, and loaves. After which were distributed to them shoes, stockings, linen and woollen cloth, and leathern bags, with one penny, twopenny, threepenny, and fourpenny pieces of silver and shillings, — to each about £4 in value. His grace the lord archbishop of York, lord high Almoner, performed the annual ceremony of washing the feet of a certain number of poor in the royal chapel, Whitehall, which was formerly done by the king's themselves, in imitation of our Saviour's pattern of humility. For a number of years the washing of the feet and other ceremonies has been given up, and since the beginning of the reign of queen Victoria, an additional sum of money has been given in lieu of provisions.

Having spent a month in York, his majesty and his nobles at the head of the army marched towards Scotland. On his approach the Scots laid down their arms, and

1639.-1642.

swore allegiance. Next year, when the king had disbanded his army, the earl of Leven, and the marquis of Montrose entered England, at the head of a Scotch army, on hearing of which, the king left London and came to York, where he convened a great council of all the peers of England, to meet and attend his majesty there.

1640. The long parliament assembled on the third day of November, and immediately proceeded to vote down the Council Court of York, and committed the king's first ministers, the earl of Strafford and archbishop Laud, upon charges of high treason. They reversed the sentences formerly passed against Hampden and others; obtained the king's assent to their bill for triennial parliaments; procured the abolition of monopolies; and an answer from his majesty relative to his method of raising supplies by forced loans, tonnage and poundage, ship money, and other expedients. They sent commissioners into the several counties "for the defacing, demolishing, and quite taking away all images, altars, or tables turned altarwise, crucifixes, superstitious pictures, monuments, and reliques of idolatry, out of all churches and chapels." The speeches of members of parliament were now first published. This parliament was brought to a close on the 9th day of September, 1641.

1642. The king with his son Charles, prince of Wales, the duke of York, and several noblemen, left London, and on the 18th of March arrived at *York*, where most of the nobility and gentry of the north received him with suitable demonstrations of loyalty. His majesty's first care, on his arrival in Yorkshire, was to secure the vast magazines in the fortress of *Hull*, consisting of all the arms and ammunition of the forces levied against the Scots; with this view he repaired to that port in person, and required Sir John Hotham, the governor, who had received his commission from the parliament, to deliver up the possession. Sir John, perceiving that matters were drawing to a crisis, shut the gates, and refused to admit the king, though he requested leave to enter with twelve persons only.

The king afterwards determined to form the siege of *Hull*, for this purpose he mustered 3,000 foot and 800 horse, and marched towards the obnoxious town. On hearing of his approach, Hotham determined that the surrounding country should be laid under water. The sluices were immediately pulled up, and the banks of the Humber cut, so that the next day by the aid of the spring tides, the meadows and pastures, to the extent of two miles on every

1642.

side of Hull were inundated with water. The king soon after resolved to raise the siege and clear off his forces.

Civil war seemed now inevitable. Every county, city, village, and hamlet of England resounded with the din of warlike preparation. The queen, Henrietta of France, was sped to Holland to pawn the crown jewels for arms and ammunition. The great mass of the nobility, gentry, and populace, except that of London, were gathering, or preparing to gather, round the king. The burgess class and the yeomanry, especially of the south, west, and midland counties, were arming for the parliament. In London, four thousand men enlisted in one day. Hampden was down in Buckinghamshire at the first signal, and soon got together two thousand men, dressed in green coats. The earl of Essex, Sir William Waller, the earl of Manchester, (lord Kimbolton), held chief commands in the parliamentary army. The king constituted the earl of Cumberland supreme commander of his forces, and appointed Sir Thomas Glemham governor of York. He then marched southward, and erected the royal standard at Nottingham, August 22nd.

The chief strength of the parliament in Yorkshire lay in the large manufacturing towns of the West-Riding. The parliamentary army being now increased to 1,000 men, marched to Tadcaster, in order to guard the passes of the Wharf, and thus protect the friendly districts of the west.

FIGHT AT WETHERBY.—Sir Thomas Fairfax was sent with 300 foot and 40 horse to take possession of Wetherby. This small force was surprised early one morning by a body of 800 men under Sir Thomas Glemham, governor of York. The guards being asleep at their posts, enabled the enemy to steal partially into the town without being discovered. The brave Sir Thomas, with but four men at their arms, withstood the shock of the enemy, and repulsed them, when major Carr, of the royalists, was slain. The attack was soon renewed, but in the midst of the conflict Fairfax's magazine was blown up, and produced so tremendous an explosion, that the royalists, believing the parliamentary forces had cannon, began to retreat towards York, and were pursued by Sir Thomas with his small body of horse, who took some prisoners. Sir Thomas lost eight or ten men, whereof seven were blown up with the powder.

FIGHT AT TADCASTER.—The fears and apprehensions of the royalists caused them to solicit the aid of the earl of Newcastle, who speedily marched from the north to

1642.

York with an army of 6,000 men, furnished with ten pieces of artillery, where he arrived on the 30th of November. Three days afterwards, he proceeded with 4,000 men and seven pieces of cannon to attack the enemy at Tadcaster. At the same time, the earl of Newport, with 2,000 men, was sent to attack Wetherby. Fairfax collected all his forces at Tadcaster. The earl began his attack about eleven o'clock in the morning, and continued until five in the evening, during which time more than 40,000 musket shots are said to have been discharged, besides the fire from the artillery; but the slaughter bore no proportion to the shot expended, as the number killed on both sides did not exceed 300. The parliamentarians, seeing no prospect of holding their position, withdrew in the night to Selby, and the following morning the royalists marched into Tadcaster without opposition. Captain Lister, a valuable officer under Fairfax, was killed during the battle.

"Captain Lister's son," says Thoresby, "passing through Tadcaster some years after, had the curiosity to inquire of the sexton where his father was buried? To which the sexton replied by showing him a skull, just dug up, which he averred was the head of the captain. On examining the skull, a bullet was found lodged in it, and this testimony to the truth of the grave digger's words so struck the young man, that he sickened at the sight, and died soon after."

By the defeat at Tadcaster, the parliamentary army was cut off from its friends and supplies in the West-Riding, for Newcastle's army occupied the towns of Sherburn, Ferrybridge, and Pontefract—however, Sir Thomas, in a night march, eluded all their vigilance, passed all their posts, and reached Bradford with three troops of horse, 300 foot, and some arms, about the end of the year 1642.

1642. Dec. FIRST SIEGE OF BRADFORD.—Before the arrival of Sir Thomas Fairfax, a body of the king's forces, numbering about 800 men, were sent from the garrison at Leeds to occupy the town. They encamped at Undercliff, about a mile distant from the town, whence they marched to the assault; the townsmen met this attack with great resolution, and soon caused the assailants to retreat in great hurry and confusion back to Leeds. On the 18th day of December, the attempt was repeated by a larger force from Leeds, consisting of five troops of horse, six troops of dragoons, and 200 foot, commanded by colonel Goring, colonel Evans, Sir William Saville, and Sir John Goodricke. About 80 of the inhabitants had muskets, the rest were armed with clubs, spits, flails, halbards, scythes, and such like rustic weapons. The church was turned into a

1642.-1643.

fortress; the walls being hung round with packs of wool, while their choicest marksmen were placed upon the tower.

The royalists made repeated attempts to enter the town by storm; but were as often repulsed. About noon the inhabitants received a reinforcement from Halifax, and determined at once to make a general sally; therefore, watching their opportunity, they rushed out of the church, seconded by those in the lanes, and met the enemy face to face. The clubs, scythes, and rustic weapons of the townsmen did great execution; and such was their fury that they would neither give nor take quarter. During the heat of this action, a young nobleman of the name of Sir John Hope, at the head of a company of foot, being in advance of his men was taken prisoner, asked for quarter, and was told he should have Bradford quarter: he was instantly slain, and his men seeing the fall of their leader, fled.

At length the royalists retreated, having had more than 100 men killed and wounded in the contest. On the side of the town, not more than five were killed and about twelve wounded.

1643. At the beginning of this year, the greatest part of Yorkshire, with the capital, York, and the towns and fortresses of Leeds, Wakefield, Skipton, and Knaresborough, were in the hands of the royalists.

LEEDS TAKEN BY SIR THOMAS FAIRFAX.—On the 23rd of January, Sir Thomas Fairfax determined to attack the garrison at Leeds, and accordingly marched from Bradford with six troops of horse, three companies of dragoons, one thousand musketeers, and 2000 clubmen. A trumpeter was dispatched to Sir William Savile, requiring the town to be delivered into the hands of Fairfax for the parliament, to which Sir William returned a disdainful answer. The parliamentary general now approached the town on the south-west side, with colours flying, to begin the assault, which commenced about one o'clock in the afternoon; and in two hours the royalists were driven from their works and their cannoniers killed. Sir Thomas, and his brother, Sir William Fairfax, with Sir Henry Fowles and Captain Forbes, cut their way through all opposition, and, entering the town sword in hand, at the head of their troops, soon got possession of the place, where they found two brass cannon, with a good store of ammunition, and took 500 prisoners, among whom were six officers. There is said to have been about forty slain. Sir William Savile fled and escaped being taken by crossing the river;

1643.

but Sergeant-major Beaumont was drowned in making the attempt.

The following memorandum occurs in the register of burials at the Leeds Parish Church:—

“23rd January, 1643. This was the day when Leeds was taken by Sir Thomas Fairfax. Eleven soldiers slayne, buried 24th January—ten unpaid for; five more slain two or three days after; six more died of their wounds.”

The same register contains the following:—

“Buried 1st April, 1643. Captain Boswell slain at Seacroft battel, and six soldiers. A gentleman and two common soldiers slain in Robert Williamson’s house, of Hunslet: buried 13th April, 1643. Five soldiers more slain—nine more in May; sixteen more in June; twelve more in July. 26 soldiers buried July and August, 1644.”

After the storming of Leeds, the royalists assumed a position at Seacroft, where they were assailed by the parliamentarians, about the end of March, but they maintained their post, and the assailants were defeated with the slaughter of a few of their men.

The town of Leeds in these turbulent times often changed masters; but was never the scene of much bloodshed.

1643. Charles’s queen, Henrietta Maria, of France, landed at Bridlington quay, on the 20th of February, with 38 pieces of cannon, and 10,000 stand of small arms. The earl of Newcastle set out from York to meet the queen, and conveyed her majesty with the military stores to that city, where she arrived on the 5th of March. For this service he was created a marquis.

WAKEFIELD TAKEN BY SIR THOMAS FAIRFAX.—The elder Fairfax being compelled to retreat from Selby, and Leeds and Bradford being the only places of strength held by the parliamentarians northward of Hull, Sir Thomas Fairfax determined to take the garrison of Wakefield, then in the possession of the king’s forces, held by about 3,000 men; and, accordingly on the morning of the 21st of May, 1643, he, at the head of 1,100 horse and foot, marched from Leeds to attempt the reduction of that town. The battle commenced about four o’clock in the morning, and, after an hour and a half’s hard fighting, Sir Thomas entered the town, took 500 prisoners, with 80 officers, 27 colours, and a large quantity of ammunition.

A copy of a letter from lord Fairfax to the speaker, of the House of Commons giving particulars of this victory has been kindly lent to the compiler by Mr. Denny, of Leeds. It is dated Leeds, 23rd May, 1643, and is signed

1643.

'Fer Fairfax.' The letter, after stating 'that the earl of Newcastle had possessed himself of Rotherham and Sheffield,' goes on to say that:—

"The earl of Newcastle's army do now range over all the south-west part of this country, pillaging and cruelly using the well-affected party; and here about Leeds, Bradford, and Hallifax, being a mountainous barren country, the people now begin to be sensible of want, their last year provisions being spent, and the enemies garrisons, stopping all the provisions both of corn and flesh, and other necessities that were wont to come from the more fruitful countries to them; their trade utterly taken away, their poor grow innumerable, and great scarcity to relieve them; and this army, which now lyes amongst them to defend them from the enemy, cannot defend them from want, which causeth much murmure and lamentation amongst the people; and for the army itself, it is so far in arreare, and no way appearing how they shall either be supplied with money or succours as they grow very mutinous. Yet upon Saturday last, in the night, I caused to be drawn out of the garrisons in Leeds, Bradford, Hallifax, and Howley, some horse, foot, and dragooners, in all about 1,500 men, and sent them against Wakefield, commanded by my son, and assisted by Major-generall Gifford, Sir Henry Fowles, and Sir William Fairfax, with divers other commanders; they appeared before Wakefield about four o'clock on Sunday in the morning, where they found the enemies (who had intelligence of their designe) ready to receive them; there was in the towne general Goring, Sergeant-major generall Mackworth, the lord Goring, with many other principall commanders, and eminent persons, with about seven troops of horse, and six regiments, containing 3,000 foot; the towne well fortified with works and four pieces of ordinance, yet our men, both commanders and common souldiers, went on with undaunted courages, and notwithstanding the thick volleys of small and great shots from the enemy, charged up to their works, which they entered, seized upon their ordinance, and turned them upon themselves, and pursued the enemy so close as they beate quite out of the towne the most part of the horse, and a great number of the foot, and made all the rest prisoners, and with them took four piece of ordinance, and all the ammunition then in the towne, and a great number of arms, and amongst the prisoners generall Goring himselfe, with divers other commanders, and other common souldiers, in all about 1,500 men, and 27 colours of foot, and three cornets of horse. When the towne was thus taken, they found their number and strength too weak to keep it and their prisoners, so they left the place and marcht away with their booty. In taking the towne, we lost no man of note, and not above seven men in all; but many of our men were shot and wounded."

1643. June 30th.—BATTLE OF ADDERTON MOOR.—The marquis of Newcastle with an army of ten or twelve thousand men, advanced towards Bradford for the purpose of punishing the inhabitants for their former disloyalty. The Fairfaxe's with a force of but 3000 men, met the



1643.

royalists upon an open plain called Adderton moor, and determined to give battle. The contest was severe, and bloody. The parliamentarians were defeated with great loss. 2000 men were killed and wounded on both sides, and that day and the next, about as many of Fairfax's army were taken prisoners. Lord Fairfax fled to Bradford. Sir Thomas with a small body of horse escaped to Halifax, but next day joined his father in Bradford.

July 16th.—SECOND SIEGE OF BRADFORD.—The situation of the Fairfaxe's was now most perilous. Sir Thomas had but 800 foot, and 60 horse to make the best defence he could against the large force of Newcastle. The church and steeple were again manned, and the latter again hung round with sheets of wool; the royalist cannon were soon brought to bear upon it, and with such effect, "that the shot cut the cords whereon the sheets of wool hung, and down they fell, which the enemy immediately perceiving loudly huzzaed their fall." Two assaults were made and were beaten off. The besieged finding it impossible to defend the place, and not liking to fall into Newcastle's hands, Sir Thomas with only fifty horsemen charged upon the enemy and cut his way through sword in hand. The wife and children of Fairfax were by his side when he took this dauntless resolution, the former was taken prisoner, but was shortly after sent back to her husband by the marquis of Newcastle in his own coach. Sir Thomas got safe to Leeds; about 80 of the foot also broke through and arrived there mounted on horses, which they had taken from the enemy.

The lord Fairfax determined to retreat to Hull; after a most fatiguing march of sixty miles, harassed on all sides by the royalists, and a severe skirmish at Selby in which Sir Thomas was wounded, being shot through the wrist, they arrived at Hull in a miserable condition. Sir John Hotham the governor and his son having entered into a conspiracy to deliver up Hull to the king, were arrested and sent to London, and were subsequently executed on Tower Hill.

After his success at Bradford, Newcastle made a kind of triumphal march through Yorkshire; took Wakefield, Rotherham, and Sheffield. He then marched into Lincolnshire where he took Gainsborough, and Lincoln, then marched through the associated counties and blocked up London on the side of Essex. Here he was stopped by the armies under the earl of Manchester and Oliver Cromwell.

1643.-1644.

1643. This year Ripon was taken possession of and garrisoned for the parliament by Sir Thomas Mauleverer who had raised a regiment of foot and another of horse at his own expense. The parliamentarians having destroyed several of the monuments and other ornamental parts of the minster, and treated some of the inhabitants with great cruelty; Sir John Mallory an active royalist then governor of Skipton castle, at the head of a detachment of the king's horse, surprised Mauleverer's main guard then stationed in the market place, and routed the whole of his forces, took several prisoners, and drove the rest with precipitation from the town.

1644. SIEGE OF YORK.—Sir Thomas Fairfax having gained a considerable victory over the royalist force at Selby, and being joined by the Scots at Wetherby, under the earl of Leven, with the united forces, to the number of 16,000 foot and 4,000 horse, advanced to besiege York, which city they invested, except the north side on the 19th of April. The earl of Manchester with 6,000 foot and 3,000 horse, of the last of which Oliver Cromwell was lieutenant-general, soon after arrived at York to assist the besiegers, and the siege was pushed with vigour. Numerous assaults were made, and bravely repelled; sallies were made by the besieged in which they were defeated and driven back with great loss; their convoys of provisions were intercepted; batteries were erected from which an almost incessant fire was maintained, the walls were breached and partially destroyed; mines were sprung with considerable effect, and a scarcity of provisions began to be felt by the garrison and citizens. The king seeing that matters were drawing to a crisis sent off a pressing order to prince Rupert to hasten to the relief of the city. On the evening of the 30th of June, intelligence was received that the prince with an army of 20,000 men was advancing towards the place, and that the same night his forces would be quartered in the towns of Boroughbridge and Knaresborough.

BATTLE OF MARSTON MOOR.—On the approach of prince Rupert the siege of York was raised. He with the combined royalists marched in pursuit of the Scotch and English forces. They soon overtook them, drawn up in grim array on Marston moor, in a position excellent as a defensive one, but not suitable for attack. Along the front of the parliamentarians ran a deep, wide drain; their left, where Cromwell commanded, was protected, and at the same time held back, by an extensive tract of broken and difficult ground. The right was free and clear. Rupert

1644.

hesitated to attack men so strongly posted, and the two armies together perhaps about 60,000 men, stood gazing at each other till a quarter past seven o'clock in the evening of the 2nd of July 1644. Cromwell could remain inactive no longer, and with a brief, passionate address to his Ironsides, he went off to make a circuit on the left, in order to fall upon the flank of the 'dissolute Goring.' Manchester and Loudon, seeing this, advanced their infantry, and the battle on the right commenced at the same time. The fight in the centre was terrific: the infantry and cavalry of Newcastle and Goring sweeping the men as they emerged from the drain they were compelled to pass, with fiery destruction. Accounts vary with respect to this attack of the main body of the Scotch and English infantry. Some writers assert that the parliamentary troops were after prodigious efforts, thrown into irretreviable confusion, and that Manchester, Loudon, Fairfax, and others, abandoned, or were about to abandon the field. Others say that the fight in the centre was obstinately and equally disputed. It is, however, quite certain that the right, where Fairfax commanded, was broken through, defeated and dispersed. It was more than half-past eight o'clock when the dark squadrons of the Ironsides, having at last extricated themselves from the broken and tangled ground, were seen charging upon Newcastle's flank. In brief space the aspect of affairs changed, and the royalist infantry were either dispersed or slain. But the battle was not yet ended. There was Rupert's triumphant cavalry returned from victorious pursuit, and far more numerous than Cromwell's horsemen to encounter. The ranks of the Ironsides, slightly disordered by victory, closed sternly up at the call of Cromwell, and again his piercing tones, echoed by thousands of voices, ran along the line.—'The sword of the Lord and of Gideon!'—and prince Rupert was literally swept from the field, with frightful carnage. Rupert himself only escaping by the fleetness of his horse. Cromwell in his letter to the Speaker of the Commons, dated July 5th, 1644, says:—

'We never charged but we routed the enemy. The left wing which I commanded being our own horse, saving a few Scots in our rear, beat all the princes' horse. God made them as stubble to our swords! We charged their regiments of foot with our horse, and routed all we charged; and of the large army the prince brought into the field, 'Oliver, though he was too hurried to give the particulars, is of opinion 'that Rupert has not more than 4,000 men remaining with him.'

1644.

It was ten o'clock before the battle and pursuit had ended, and the summer moon, as she arose threw her pale, melancholy light upon the white death-faces of 5,000 Scotch and Englishmen, slain there by kindred hands! The conquerors had good right to be proud of their dear bought victory; 4000 of their enemies lay slain upon the field; 1,500, mostly men of note, taken prisoners; the capture of all the prince's material of war, consisting of 25 pieces of ordnance, 47 colours, 10,000 stand of arms, two waggons loaded with carbines and pistols, 130 barrels of powder, and all their bag and baggage.

In the year 1857 as some navvies were making a drain at a considerable depth through Marston moor they cut into the burial pits of the slain in this battle. The foreman of the work says "We cut twelve yards long and about eight feet wide through the grave, and found most bodies about four feet from the surface, but I consider that we got to the bottom of it, as we took two 'draws' (diggings) through it after and the ground below seemed untouched. At one place bodies, about 20 or 25 of them, were laid one over the other in all directions and postures,—the forms of many were left in the clay. At this place there was much of a sort of deposit that looked like soot, not slime, but damp; the smell at first was intolerable, and could be felt at some distance; it was so bad that the men could only work short spells. The skulls had preserved their shape, but crumbled away when exposed to the air. There was a bullet in one skull, which dropped out when the skull fell to pieces; the bones especially, the large ones did not crumble away, but were very brittle when touched with the spade. The teeth were quite perfect, and many of them were taken away by the drainers."

On the 16th of July, York surrendered to the forces of parliament on the most favourable terms to the besieged. The siege had continued nearly thirteen weeks, in which the garrison repulsed twenty-two attempts to carry the city by storm and four countermines; and 4,000 or 5000 of the enemy had fallen before its walls. On its surrender, the parliamentary generals entered the city in solemn procession, and went directly to the cathedral, where a psalm was sung, and the following day was observed as a day of general thanksgiving. York, being thus subjected to the parliament, lord Ferdinand Fairfax was made its governor; and he, and his son Sir Thomas, received commissions to reduce all the garrisons in this county that still held out for the king—a commission which in a short time they effected. After the whole kingdom was brought under subjection to the parliament, York was dismantled of its garrison, with the exception of Clifford's tower, of

1640.-1644.

which the lord mayor was appointed governor, and continued to hold that commission for several years.

1640. Feb. 10. Judge Berkley was arrested on his seat in the court of king's bench, and sent to prison for giving his opinion in favour of ship money, and was fined £10,000.

1642. In lord Clarendon's history, Leeds, Halifax, and Bradford are called three very populous and rich towns, depending wholly on *clothiers*.

1643. Jenkinson's and Dally's almshouses, the most ancient of their kind in the town, were founded this year by Josias Jenkinson, and were formerly situated at Quebec, Mill-hill, but have since been rebuilt at Woodhouse. Eight poor widows, nominated by the trustees, receive about £5 each yearly. The messuage and lands at great Woodhouse, the site on which the houses now stand, were also devised by Josias Jenkinson. Elizabeth Dally, by will in 1800, gave the vicar of Leeds, the minister of St. John's, the Holy Trinity and St. Paul's, and their successors, £200 to be placed at interest for the benefit of the poor widows residing in Jenkinson's almshouses; but, owing to the principal acting executor dying in 1809, in embarrassed circumstances, no part of this legacy was received till November, 1823, when the sum of £110 3s. 7d. was paid, which sum is invested in the three-per-cents reduced annuities, and the dividends distributed among the alms-people.——Jan. 4th, two soldiers were hanged at Halifax, on a gallows made near the gibbet, for deserting from the parliament army at Halifax to the king's forces at Heptonstall; they were taken by Sir Francis Mackworth's company, and executed the same night. About this time an obstinate action took place at the top of Halifax bank, adjoining the road to Wakefield: this gave the place the name of *Bloody Field*.

1644. Archbishop Sharp was born at Bradford, on the 16th of February.——Dr. Richard Richardson, of Bierley, built the second hothouse known in the north of England, in which he for some time kept a seedling of one of the first cedars of Libanus ever planted in England. This cedar had when Dr. Whitaker wrote, attained the circumference of twelve feet four inches.——Tickhill castle, (between Doncaster and Rotherham), after a siege of only two days, was taken by the parliamentary forces.

The earl of Manchester sent a large force to reduce *Sheffield castle*, but, in order to prevent the effusion of blood, a summons was sent to major Beaumont, requiring him to

1644.

surrender it, which was answered by a volley of shot, and a reply that the garrison "would hold no parley." The besiegers now erected two batteries, and kept their cannon playing upon the fortress for twenty-four hours, without any visible effect. Finding that the siege would be protracted, major Crawford sent to lord Fairfax for the "queen's pocket pistol," and a whole culverin, which being brought to the spot, played with such fatal effect, that the garrison was forced to capitulate, and the castle was surrendered to the parliamentary general on the 11th of August. The castle was soon afterwards rendered untenable, by order of parliament.

On the 20th December, after a siege of more than three weeks, Knaresbro' castle also surrendered. In the castle were found four pieces of fine ordnance, a large store of arms, powder, and ammunition; a considerable quantity of specie and plate to the value of £1,500, with other valuable booty.——About this time, the privilege of returning a member to serve in parliament, was conferred on Leeds. Adam Baynes, Esq., of Knostrop, an officer in the parliamentary army was returned, and was the only representative the borough had till the passing of the reform act in 1832.

A terrible plague raged in Leeds for nine months, during the year 1644-5, by which 1,335 persons died; "probably," says Dr. Whitaker, "a fifth part of the entire population of the town." It raged most violently in Vicar-lane. It was also very bad in Marsh-lane, the Calls, Call-lane, lower Briggate, and Mill-hill. The streets were grass grown, the markets were removed to Woodhouse moor, and divine service was suspended. "The air in June, when the greatest number died, was very warm, and so infectious that dogs and cats, mice and rats, died; also several birds in their flight over the town dropped down dead."

Alice, the wife of John Musgrave, of Vicar-lane, is supposed to have been the first victim—she was buried at the Leeds parish church. 11th March, 1644. The register of burials at the parish church could not be kept during the plague, and the following memorandum in the register explains the reason:—

"These were all the names which came to our notice since the ould church doores were shut up for all the rest have died in plague time. You may take them in general, as they are brought in weekly to major Carter, who was then governor of the town."

Here follow the weekly returns from the 12th March to the 25th December, making a total of 1,325. The register

1644.

also says that three persons were buried in the Mr. Vicar's croft.

In November, 1790, as some workmen were digging clay in a field now occupied by part of George's-street, they discovered fifty oak coffins containing human bones, and supposed to have been deposited there at the time of the plague.

1644. FIRST SIEGE OF PONTEFRACT CASTLE.—Immediately after the surrender of York, detachments of troops were sent to besiege the castle at Pontefract, then occupied by the king's friends. The garrison kept the enemy at bay for several months, and were at times reduced to the greatest distress for want of provisions. On the 19th of January, 1645, after an incessant cannonade against the walls of the castle, the Pix tower gave way, and by its fall carried part of the walls along with it, by which a breach was made; but whilst the castle was thus assailed its defenders were not inactive. A shot from the castle struck a match belonging to the enemy, and some sparks falling into the powder, it instantly exploded and killed twenty-seven men. By a well directed fire of musketry, the besieged obliged their enemy to keep their distance, and frequently did considerable execution.

1645. On the 21st of January, general Langdale, one of the royalist generals, at the head of 2000 horse came to the relief of the garrison. He attacked the besiegers, and compelled them to retire from the place in great disorder, and with considerable loss.

SECOND SIEGE OF PONTEFRACT.—On general Langdale's departure, the parliamentarian troops again besieged Pontefract castle. On the 21st of March, 1645, the enemy took possession of the town, and after four months of incessant cannonades, attacks, and sorties, the garrison, being reduced to a state of famine, surrendered the castle by an honourable capitulation on the 20th of July. Sir Thomas Fairfax was appointed governor, but as he was sufficiently employed in the field, he placed colonel Cotterel in the castle as his substitute.

In the month of October, Sandal castle, near Wakefield, which had been for some time held for the king by colonel Bonivant, surrendered to the arms of parliament, and was soon after dismantled.

On the 22nd of December, Skipton castle surrendered to the arms of the parliament after a blockade of three years, by the parliamentary generals Lambert, Poyntz, and Rossiter; the earl of Cumberland, its owner being



1645.-1646.

then lord-lieutenant of Yorkshire, and Sir John Mallory, of Studley; an old and faithful royalist the governor.

1645. June 3rd. Died Mr. Nathaniel Waterhouse, of Halifax, a great benefactor to the poor of that town. His gravestone bore this inscription:—

The church and poor I left my heirs,  
 My friends to order my affairs :  
 My soul I sent before to try  
 What is provided in eternity ;  
 My earthly part lies here, you see,  
 Hoping to rise ; that's best for me.

The king, having constituted secretary lord Digby lieutenant-general of all his forces north of the river Trent, his lordship advanced by the route of Doncaster towards York. On his arrival at Sherburn, near Ferrybridge, he stopped to refresh his troops, where information reached him that colonel Copley, an officer in the service of parliament, was advancing with a body of troops. Digby presently "summoned to horse," and marched with a party of his troops out of the town to meet the enemy, whom he fell upon and put to flight. Copley's discomfited followers fled through Sherburn, *pell mell*, when that part of the royal army which had not been engaged in the fight, supposing that the fugitives were their comrades, and that they had suffered a defeat, mounted their horses and dispersed in every direction. At this critical moment, a troop of the parliamentary forces which had remained upon the field unbroken, fell upon lord Digby and those around him, and drove them to Skipton castle. By this fatal catastrophe, Digby's army, which had raised high expectations, was broken up; his baggage, containing his cabinet papers, fell into the hands of the enemy, to the high gratification of the parliamentary party. Sir Richard Hutton, high sheriff of Yorkshire, who had espoused the royal cause, was left dead upon the field.

1646. King Charles, having surrendered himself to the Scots, was taken by them to Newcastle-upon-Tyne, and on his road lodged in the Red-hall, at Leeds, so called because of its being the first house in Leeds built of brick. The window which lighted the room in which he was confined, is that to the extreme right in the second story on the north side of the house. A maid servant of the house entreated him to put on her clothes, and make his escape, assuring him that she would conduct him in the dark out of the garden door, into a back alley, called

1646.-1648.

Land's-lane, and thence to a friend's house, whence he might escape to France. The king, however, declined the woman's offer, but with many thanks, and gave her for a token "*The Garter*," saying, that if it were never in his power, on sight of that token, his son would reward her. After the Restoration, the woman presented the token to the king, and told him the story. The king enquired whence she came? She said, from Leeds, in Yorkshire. Whether she had a husband? She replied, yes.—What was his calling? She said, an under bailiff. Then, said the king, he shall be chief bailiff in Yorkshire. The man afterwards built Crosby-house, in Upperhead-row, Leeds.

1646. An anecdote is related of the celebrated Harrison, that he obtained permission to present to his majesty during his stay in the Red-hall, a tankard of excellent ale, but on the king opening the lid of the tankard, he found, instead of the expected beverage, that the vessel was filled with gold, which he immediately contrived with great dexterity to hide about his person.

1647. Matthew Broadley, of London, gentleman, by will, dated 15th of October, this year, left £500 to establish a free grammar school, at *Hipperholme-cum-Brighouse*, which is now called "Sunderland's charity."

1648.-9. On Tuesday morning the 30th of January, this year—Charles I. was beheaded in the open street before Whitehall.

The death-warrant was as follows:—

"To colonel Francis Hacker, colonel Hunks, and lieutenant-colonel Phayr, and to every of them." At the high court of Justice for the the trying and judging Charles Stuart, king of England, 29th January, 1648.-9.

"Whereas Charles Stuart, king of England, is, and standeth convicted, attained, and condemned of High Treason, and other high crimes, and sentence upon Saturday last was pronounced against him by this court, to be put to death by the severing of his head from his body; of which sentence execution yet remains to be done: These are therefore to will and require you to see the said sentence executed in the open street before Whitehall, upon the morrow, being the 30th day of this instant, month of January, between the hours of ten in the morning and five in the afternoon of the same day, with full effect: And for so doing this shall be your warrant. And these are to require all officers and soldiers, and other the good people of this nation in England, to be assisting unto you in this service."

Given under our hands and seals,

JOHN BRADSHAWE.

THOMAS GREY, (lord Groby.

OLIVER CROMWELL.

(and 56 others.)

1648.-1649.

1648. In January, the money, in bags of £1000 each, began to be counted at York, into the hands of the Scottish receiver, on Tuesday, the 5th, and was completed on the 16th, being the payment of the first £200,000 for the arrears of the Scottish army——October 29th, *General Raisborough*, a zealous and avowed republican, was assassinated at Doncaster, by three desperadoes of the royalist party.

June 3rd. The governor of *Pontefract castle*, having given orders for some beds and provisions out of the country, colonel Morrice, commissioned by general Langdale, and accompanied by nine royalist officers, disguised like peasants, having pistols, &c., concealed beneath their clothes, appeared at the castle-gate, with carts laden with beds, provisions, &c. The draw-bridge was let down, and the beds, &c., delivered to the main guard; money was then given to the soldiers to fetch some ale, in whose absence, Morrice and his party attacked and mastered the main guard, making way for their confederates to enter; they made the deputy-governor prisoner, and soon made themselves masters of the castle, after which, they were joined by 30 horse and 500 foot, part of the king's shattered troops, and Sir John Digby was made governor. In the month of October, the third siege of Pontefract castle commenced. Oliver Cromwell undertook to superintend the operations in person, and remained a month before the fortress, without being able to make any impression on its massy walls. He then gave the command to general Lambert, who ultimately succeeded in reducing it to submission; but not before the garrison had been reduced from 600 men to 100, and some of them unfit for duty.——On the 25th of March, 1649, the garrison surrendered by capitulation, having first proclaimed Charles II.; and done all that a brave garrison of men could do. With the surrender of this fortress concludes the annals of the civil wars in England. At the demolition of Pontefract castle, in 1649, was found a very ancient M.S. on the subject of *free masonry*, which in the year 1738 was presented to one of the lodges in the city of York, by *Mr. Drake*, the celebrated antiquary, who was the master in 1761.

In this and subsequent years, several of the inhabitants of Halifax issued penny and half-penny tokens. Persons in trade found themselves under the necessity of assuming this power of coinage, owing to the want of copper money coined by authority. They were cried down by proclamation in 1672.

1649. The pulpit in Armley chapel bore this date, when Thoresby wrote his history of Leeds, which says, "*Armley*

1649.-1650.

*hall*, the seat of the Hoptons, was sure a spacious place, before the six-and-twenty rooms were taken down, to reduce it to a farm-house."

1650. HALIFAX GIBBET LAW was a cruel mode of trial and execution, which existed in the forest of Hardwick, (a district comprising the principal part of the parish of Halifax), till the year 1650, when the last of its victims were Abraham Wilkinson and Anthony Mitchell. "The inhabitants within the forest of Hardwick had a custom," says Bentley in his history of Halifax, "from time immemorial, that if a felon was taken within their liberty, with goods, stolen out or within the liberty of the said forest, either hand-habend, back-berand, or confessand, any commodity of the value of thirteen-pence half-penny, he should, after three markets or meeting days, within the town of Halifax, next after such apprehension, and being condemned, be taken to the gibbet, and have his head cut off from his body." The felon was, however, to be publicly and deliberately tried, by a sort of jury, consisting of the frith-burghers within the liberty. When the felon was apprehended, he was immediately brought before the lord's bailiff at Halifax, who kept the common gaol in the town, had the custody of the axe, and was the legal executioner. The bailiff then issued his summons to the constables of four several townships within the liberty, to require four frith-burghers within each to appear before him on a certain day, to examine into the truth of the charge. At the trial, the accuser and the accused were confronted before the jury, and the goods stolen were produced. If the party accused was acquitted, he was instantly liberated; if condemned, he was either executed immediately, if that was the principal market day, or set in the stocks on the less meeting days with the stolen goods on his back, if portable, or if not, they were placed before him." The execution always took place on the great market day, in order to strike more terror into the neighbourhood. When the criminal was brought to the gibbet, which stood a little way out of the town, on the west end the execution was performed by means of an engine, called a gibbet, which was raised upon a platform four feet high, and thirteen feet square, faced on every side with stone, and ascended by a flight of steps. In the middle of this platform were placed two upright pieces of timber, fifteen feet high, joined at the top by a transverse beam. Within these were a square block of wood, four feet and a half long, which moved up and down by means of grooves made for that purpose; to

1650.-1651.

the lower part of this sliding block was fastened an iron axe, of the weight of seven pounds twelve ounces. The axe thus fixed, was drawn up to the top by a cord and pulley. At the end of the cord was a pin, which, being fixed to the block, kept it suspended till the moment of execution, when the culprit, having placed his head on the block, the pin was withdrawn, and his head was instantly severed from his body. If the offender was condemned for stealing an ox, a sheep, or a horse, the end of the rope was fastened to the beast, which, being driven, pulled out the pin, and thus became the executioner. Remains of these fatal instruments may still be seen at the gaol at Halifax. The number of persons executed in Halifax, under the operation of the gibbet, during little more than a century, namely, between 1541 and 1650, amounted to no less than 49.——*Hunslet* in this year contained 200 families, and was famous for the manufacture of woollen cloth.

Holbeck contained 400 families at the same period.

*Oliver Cromwell*, the Protector, was at York on the 4th of July, and partook of the mayor's hospitality, after which he proceeded on his journey to Scotland, having first displaced the royal arms, and substituted those of the existing government.——Tea was first introduced into England about this time.

1650-60. Between these two dates an ordinance of parliament was issued to prohibit the exportation of wool and fullers' earth, on pain of forfeiture of the wool, and a penalty of 3s. per lb. on every pound of fullers' earth.

1651. On October 1st died *Peter Saxton, M.A.*, vicar of Leeds, to which benefice he was preferred in 1646, on his return from America, whither he went in 1640, and was amongst the first of those who enlightened the dark regions of that extensive continent, being at that time dissatisfied with the ceremonies of the Church of England, and the troubles of the realm. He was a learned man, and a great Hebraist.——*Christopher Saxton*, the great chorographer, was probably one of the vicar's ancestors, for Camden supposes him to have been a native of Leeds parish, where he frequently resided amongst his relations. Thoresby, in allusion to Camden's *Christopher Saxton*, says, "as long as that celebrated author is owned the prince of our English antiquaries, and his *Britannica* the common sun whereat our modern writers lighted their little torches, the fame of Saxton will survive; for he styles him the *most excellent chorographer*." Saxton's maps were highly esteemed little more than a century

1651.-1654.

ago.—September 3rd. The famous battle of Worcester was fought, in which Charles II's forces were routed; 3000 killed, and 6000 or 7000 taken prisoners.

1652. The taxes in England during the *Commonwealth* consisted chiefly of the monthly assessments, the customs, and the excise, the latter of which was levied on bread, flesh-meat, beer, &c.—February. "There was a great eclipse of the sun about nine hours of the forenoon, on a Monday. The earth was much darkened; the like, as thought by astrologers, was not since the darkness at our Lord's passion. The country people, tilling, loosed their ploughs, and thought it had been the latter day; some of the stars were seen; and the birds clapped to the ground."

1653. Richard Thompson, D.D., a native of Wakefield, was born about this time, and educated at the grammar school there. He was a very zealous churchman, and died in 1685, at Bristol.—The Register Office at Wakefield for the West-Riding of Yorkshire was instituted this year.—By an indenture dated the 21st August this year, John Harrison, Esq. conveyed certain estates to trustees therein named, for the endowment of an hospital, at present known by the name of "Harrison's hospital." The mayor of the borough possesses the right of nominating to this charity, in turn with the vicar, the incumbent of the church of St. John's, and the two trustees appointed by the said indenture, respectively for the time being.

1654. On the 9th of August in this year, William Farrer, Esq., of Ewood, near Halifax, purchased a share of the lands of SADDLEWORTH, (the whole of which, tradition says, were anciently sold for a saddle, hence *Saddle-worth*,) from William Ramsden, Esq., of Longley Hall, for £2,950. These lands, in 1775, brought in an annual rent of £1,500, to James Farrer, Esq., of Bamborough Grange. In 1780 he sold off land to the amount of £10,000, and, by advancing the remainder, still kept up the rent of £1,500 a year. At his death, in 1791, it had increased to £2,000 a year, much of it in leases for lives, and the estate being sold in small parcels to the occupiers and others, it produced nearly £70,000, making an actual profit in the sales, exclusive of the rents, upwards of £77,000, upon less than a £3,000 purchase.—Jeremy Bentley, Esq., was returned member of parliament for Halifax.

On December 6th, in this year, died Joshua Hoyle, D.D. He was born at Sowerby, and received his first academical

1654 - 1656.

education in Magdalen hall, Oxford, being afterwards invited to Ireland, was made fellow of Trinity College, Dublin; there he took the degree of D.D., and was elected divinity professor in that university. On the breaking out of the rebellion in Ireland, in 1641, he came into England, and soon afterwards was made master of university college, Oxford, and the king's professor of divinity, and at that period published several works.——By indenture dated the 30th January, this year, John Harrison, Esq., and others therein named, conveyed to trustees for the use of the Leeds corporation, five ninths of the Bailiwick, or manor of Leeds, with the appurtenances, including the common oven and bakehouse, (subject to a fee farm rent.)

1655. The old prison of the borough was removed from "Cross Parish" in Briggate to the south side of Kirkgate. It was a wretched place with five or six dark and miserable rooms, without even a sewer or fire place and the windows were not glazed.

Opposite the prison was the common bakehouse, which had existed from an early period.——At this time owing to the great scarcity of money, merchants and tradesmen in Leeds, obtained, or assumed the privilege of coining penny and halfpenny pieces of brass and copper, known as *tokens*. This species of money continued in circulation until 1672, when it was discontinued by royal proclamation.

1656. February 6th, Queen Anne was born; subsequently married to the prince of Denmark, 1683; succeeded her brother-in-law, William III., on the British throne, March 8th, 1702; crowned and settled the first fruits and tenths on the poor clergy, in 1704, and died August 1st, 1714, aged 58 years.——John Harrison, Esq., the great benefactor of Leeds, died at his house, (formerly the "Leeds Mercury Office") Briggate, aged 77 years, leaving in various charities, an imperishable memorial. He was interred in his own orchard, then situate on the site of the present free market, Kirkgate. After six years he was disinterred by the descendants of his sisters, and his remains were removed to St. John's Church, Leeds, where there is an epitaph as follows:—

"Here resteth the body of Mr. John Harrison, the wonder of his own, and pattern of succeeding ages. Eminent for prudence, piety, loyalty, charity, who, (beside other works of a pious munificence, and many great instances of an excellent virtue), founded an hospital for the relief of indigent persons of good conversation, and formerly in-



1656.-1658.

dustrious. Built the free school of this town for the encouragement of learning, together with a chappell; this church (which most may eavie,) for the exercise of religion, and endowed it with eighty pounds per annum. Also that he might do good in all his capacities, he erected a stately cross for convenience of the market, and having given these pledges of a joyful resurrection, fell asleep. Oct. 29. Anno Dom. 1656, ætatis suæ 77.

Richard Fawcett, A.M. who was incumbent of St. John's in 1768, filed a bill in chancery against the trustees, for withholding from the minister all the increased rents and profits above £80. He obtained a decree in his favour, so that the yearly value of the benefice was increased to six times its original value.

1657. *Skipton castle* was this year re-built by lady Clifford, countess dowager of Pembroke, having laid in ruins from December, 1648, when it was demolished by order of Parliament.——Sarah Gledhill, (niece to the benefactor) by will dated 13th Oct. bequeathed £200 to purchase lands to endow a free school in Barkisland, for twelve poor children. The produce of the estate, purchased by the trustees, is £31 10s. per annum.——George Savile was created by king Charles II. *baron Savile, of Elland, and viscount Halifax*; and, in 1682, he was created *marquis of Halifax*, a title which became extinct with his son, August 31st, 1700. on the 4th December, 1700, Charles Montague, of Horton, in Northamptonshire, was created *baron Halifax, in the county of York*, and in 1714, *earl of Halifax, and viscount Sunbury*, with limitation to his nephew, Edward Montague, Esq.——About this period, a gentleman newly converted to the tenets of *George Fox*, gave a piece of ground, at Monk Bretton, near Barnsley, for the use of the Friends, in the neighbourhood of Leeds. Their first meeting place was near Gildersome, where they had a society about 1661.

1658. On the 16th of August, was born in Kirkgate, at Leeds, Ralph Thoresby, the learned antiquary and historian, who died Oct. 16th, 1725, and lies interred in the parish church of that town. A memorial stone within the altar rail at the south-east side of the church, bears this inscription:—"Sacred to the memory of Ralph Thoresby, F.R.S., a member of the ancient corporation of Leeds. He was born 16th August, 1658. He died 16th Oct. 1725, and was interred within these walls. His name known in the annals of literature as that of an historian and antiquary, is recorded here as that of an humble christian. He was educated a Nonconformist, but the wish of his maturer

1658.-1660.

years was guided to seek the church. Within her fold he attended with a salutary diligence the ordinances of our holy faith; hence he was enabled to dispense the benefits of a respected example, and to receive the blessings of that pure and undefiled religion which led him to visit the fatherless and widows in their affliction, and to keep himself unspotted from the world."——Sir Henry Slingsby was beheaded on Tower Hill, for conspiring against Oliver Cromwell, June 8th.——Joseph Bingham, whose works have obtained for him the name of "*the learned Bingham*," was born at Wakefield in this year. He was collated to the rectory of Havant, near Portsmouth, in 1712, and died August 17th, 1723. He wrote the "*Antiquities of the Christian Church*."——September 3rd. Oliver Cromwell, Protector of England, died this day, being the anniversary of his two most famous battles. He was born at Huntingdon, April 25th, 1599. His son Richard, succeeded to the Protectorate, which in a few months, dropped from his feeble hands. On receiving the news of the approach of Charles II., he abdicated of his own accord (1659), and until his death (1712), lived in seclusion.

1660. On the 8th of May, king Charles II. was restored to the throne of his ancestors, and on the 29th of the same month made his grand entry into London.——*Wool* was prohibited from being exported, at the instance of the manufacturers, though the Lincolnshire graziers cried out against the restriction for more than a century afterwards.

John Lake, D.D., afterwards bishop of Chichester, was presented to the vicarage of Leeds, but was obliged to employ a party of soldiers to secure his induction, the church doors having been barred against him by a furious mob, composed of the friends of his competitor, Mr. Bowles, of York.——James Naylor a native of East Ardsley, near Wakefield, died in October this year. He was born about 1616, and was the son of a farmer of property, but received only a plain English education. From 1641 to 1647, he served in the parliamentary army, and professed the presbyterian faith till 1651, when he became a convert to George Fox, the founder of Quakerism. In 1655, he distinguished himself amongst a "*Society of Friends*" in London, where the female part of his hearers attributed to him such piety and divinity, from his likeness, it is said, to the prints and other representations of our Saviour, that his naturally weak and romantic brain became deranged with flattery, and he assumed the character of the *Messiah*, in which he affected to heal the sick and raise the

1660.-1662.

dead, believing that he was transformed into Christ himself, an idea in which he was supported by many of his deluded followers, who, in his progress from Exeter gaol to Bristol, strewed their garments in his path, and escorted him into the city, singing, "Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Sabaoth!" He was immediately seized by the Bristol magistrates, and after a long examination, sent to London, where the parliament condemned him to have his tongue bored, a brand set upon his forehead, and to be whipped from the palace-yard to the old Exchange, after being in the pillory two hours at both places. He was afterwards whipped twice through the streets of Bristol. This severe punishment brought him to his senses, and being released from prison, the unfortunate man died on his way homeward.—The great centre steeple of St. Wilfred's church at Ripon, which was forty yards high, was blown down, and fell into the chancel. The other two steeples were removed, soon after.—The old chapel at Ripponden, was built in 1660, and the present one consecrated September 9th, 1737. In the tower are four bells, one of which is thus whimsically inscribed,

"O may their souls in heaven dwell,

"Who made the least a tenor bell."—1701.

1661. In this year Charles II. granted a new charter to Leeds. By this charter, the corporation was to consist first, of a mayor to be elected annually by the mayor, aldermen, and assistants for the time being. Secondly, twelve aldermen, twenty-four assistants, one recorder, and one town-clerk, who were to hold the office for life unless by "their evil behaviour, or evil carriage, or for some other reasonable cause," they should be removed from their place, by the mayor, and the rest of the common council of the borough. The charter also enacted that the mayor, aldermen, recorder and deputy-recorder should be justices of the peace.

A penalty was imposed upon any person in the town of Leeds, who killed flesh meat, or who suffered it to be eaten in their houses during Lent.—An epitaph in the Leeds parish church, to the memory of Mr. John Thoresby, who died Sept. 20th, 1661, aged sixty-nine years, is as follows :

"Here lies lamented precious dust,

A tradesman true, a justice just ;

A husband kind, a parent dear,

Who walked with God in faith and fear."

1662. The first law for making *turnpike roads* was enacted.

1662.-1663.

On the 3rd February, this year, the Leeds corporation authorized the churchwardens to lay "an eight-fold assessment upon the inhabitants of the borough, to re-imburse themselves for the severall great summes of money expended and laid out about the repayres of the parish church of the said towne and about the erecting of a font for the more reverent administring the holysacrament of baptisme."

On the 26th of March, the corporation of Leeds appointed Thomas Gorst to be their cook, and ordered that he should "from tyme to tyme, upon any publique occasion, dresse, or order to be dressed, the severall dishes appoynted for any such meeting or solemnitie." The corporation had at this time occasion to complain that "many masters of familyes and parents of children doe give libertye to their servants and others, to profane the Sabbath, by their open playing in the streets, sitting in publique places in great companyes, to the great dishonour of God in poynte of divine worshippe, in scandall to christian profession, and to the bad example of the younger sort in poynte of education."

The milling of coin was first introduced; and ten years afterwards copper coin was first made current in England. The first sterling money was issued in 1216; before which time rents were paid in kind, and gold and silver was only found in the coffers of the barons: coins was however used in Brittain 25 years before the birth of Christ.——June 14. Sir Henry Vane beheaded for taking a lead amongst the republicans during the Civil Wars. He was the last who suffered in that cause

1663. A contemptible insurrection called the *Farnley Wood Plot* broke out in October in this year, but was quickly suppressed. The rendezvous of the conspirators was in Farnley Wood, near Leeds, and their objects were to "re-establish a gospel ministry and magistracy; to restore the long parliament; to relieve themselves from the excise and all subsidies; and to reform all orders and degrees of men, especially the lawyers and clergy." The conspirators were tried at York by a special commission, in Jan., 1663-4, when twenty-one were convicted and executed. Of these three suffered on Chapeltown moor, near Leeds, Jan. 19th of that year, as appears by the parish register, which says, "Robert Atkins, John Errington, and Henry Watson, hanged at Chapeltown." Robert Atkins was a salter and oil-drawer, in great business at Timble-bridge, and was buried in his own garden, with a gravestone over his body, which

1663-1664.

was broken in 1720, by order of Samuel Walker, when he purchased the premises. The rebellion was headed by one Oates, an old officer in the parliamentary army, whose son, Ralph Oates, in the trial of the conspirators, deposed that they never exceeded thirty persons. Lord Clarendon says, their intention was to seize upon the city of York, had they not been disappointed in an expected co-operation.——The first newspaper printed in England bore this date, (1663), and appeared under the title of the "Public Intelligencer," by Sir Roger L'Estrange, which was two years previous to the first French paper, "Des Savans." "The Public Intelligencer" was dropped on the first appearance of the "London Gazette," which was first published at Oxford, on the 7th of November, 1665. In 1680 newspapers and pamphlets were prohibited by royal proclamation.——In this year, a subsidy, called "hearth money," was granted to the crown by act of parliament, as an additional revenue. It amounted to the sum of two shillings on every hearth, in houses paying to the church and poor. From a return made at the time, it would seem that there were in Leeds 1431 inhabitants, (a list of whom will be found in Wardell's *Municipal History of the Borough of Leeds*), possessing 2,845 hearths or stoves in the borough, which would realise the sum of £300, to be contributed by this town.

This Hearth Tax, commonly called "Chimney Money," was an old tax revived under a new name. The hint at least, was taken from the duty on fumage, laid upon his Norman subjects, by the Black Prince, after the dukedom of Aquitaine was granted to him, and consisted of twelvepence upon every fire; which duty was again derived from the well known tax formerly paid to the Popes, under the name of "Peter pence," being one penny for every chimney that smoked. This tax, so grievous to the people, was repealed by 1st William and Mary, cap. 10.

1664. Died March 28, *Accepted Frewen*, archbishop of York, who was appointed to that see, after it had remained vacant ten years. He was eccentric in his ways, lived in a state of celibacy, and would not even have a female servant about his palace.——The sect called Quakers was founded by George Fox, in which year sixty were transported to America by order of the council. In 1696 their affirmation was adopted by act of parliament instead of an oath. One of their body, John Archdale, was chosen a member of parliament, notwithstanding which, his election was made void, on his refusing to take the oaths, 1698.

1665.-1667.

1665. In the summer of this year London was visited by a plague which swept off about 100,000 people, and did not experience any abatement till the approach of cold weather. On this occasion the city presented a wide and heart-rending scene of misery and desolation. Rows of houses stood tenantless, and open to the winds; the chief thoroughfares were overgrown with grass. The few individuals who ventured abroad, walked in the middle of the streets, and when they met, declined on opposite sides to avoid the contact of each other. At one moment were heard the ravings of delirium, or the wail of sorrow, from the infected dwelling; at another, the merry song or careless laugh from the tavern, where men were seeking to drown in debauchery all sense of their awful situation.

1666. On the 26th of April, this year, a plot was discovered for taking the tower and firing the city, which was to have been put in execution on the 3rd of September. It is worthy of remark, that the 'Great Fire of London' broke out on the night of Sunday, the 2nd of September in that year, the very day before that appointed by the conspirators. The fire broke out in the eastern and more crowded part of the city. The direction and violence of the wind, the combustible nature of the houses, and the defective arrangements of that age for extinguishing fires, combined to favour the progress of the flames, which raged during the whole of the week, and burnt all that part of the city which lies between the tower and the temple. By this calamity St. Paul's cathedral, together with 1,200 houses and 89 churches covering in all 430 acres of ground, were destroyed. The flame at one time formed a column a mile in diameter, and seemed to mingle with the clouds. It rendered the night as clear as day for ten miles around the city, and is said to have produced an effect upon the sky which was observed on the borders of Scotland.——On the 5th of August, the duke and duchess of York visited that city, and were received with every demonstration of loyalty and affection. This year the notorious Jefferies attended at York, as one of the judges of assize.

1667. At the York assizes this year, *Henry Jenkins* appeared as a witness in a cause, and deposed that the tithes of wool, lamb, &c., had been paid to his knowledge 120 years or more! Jenkins had appeared at York two years before, to prove the existence of an ancient road to a mill 120 years! He remembered the dissolution of the monasteries,

1667.

and said that great lamentation was made on that occasion. In early life he was butler to lord Conyers, of Hornby castle, and was often at Fountain's abbey during the residence of the last abbot, who, he said, frequently visited his lord, and drank a hearty glass with him. He was born at Ellerton-upon-Swale, in this county, before parish registers were in use; but bishop Littleton communicated to the society of antiquarians, on the 11th of December, 1766, a paper copied from an old household book of Sir Richard Graham, bart., of Norton Conyers, the writing of which says, that upon his going to live at Bolton, Jenkins was said to be about 150 years old, that he had often examined him in his sister's kitchen, where he came to beg alms, and found facts and chronicles agree in his account. He was then 162 years of age, and said that he went to Northallerton with a horse load of arrows for the battle of Flodden Field, with which a bigger boy went forward to the army, under the earl of Surrey, king Henry being at that time at Tournay, and he believed himself then 11 or 12 years old. This was in 1513, and four or five people of the same parish, said to be 100 years old or near it, declared Jenkins to have been an old man ever since they knew him. He died in December, 1670, at Bolton-on-Swale, aged one hundred and sixty-nine years, where a monument is erected to his memory, the epitaph of which was composed by Dr. Thomas Chapman, master of Magdalen college, Cambridge. Jenkins was co-temporary with Old Parr, who died in the 152nd year of his age, A.D. 1635, and lies buried among the eminent dead in Westminster abbey, where the ashes of old Jenkins should have borne him company.—On the 1st of April, this year, the Leeds corporation, “haveing due respect to the lawes and and canons of holy church,” ordered that the mayor, vicar, several members of the corporation, and two churchwardens, should enter into contracts for repairing and restoring the leads and windows of the parish church, and to take sufficient security for the due performance of the work.

In the Whitkirk register are some curious entries under this date, showing the condition of the poor clergy, as follows :—

“1667. Given to a poore old minister who preached here, June 2nd, 3s. 6d. Bestowed in ale upon a poore preacher that preached here, 6d. April 10th, 1670. Given then, by the neighbours, to a poore mendicant minister, one Mr. John Rhodes, who then preached here; and after sermon stood in the middle ile to receive the charity of the people, the summe of 12s. 3d.”



1669.-1671.

1669. Thoresby, the antiquary, says, "it is very memorable that in the space of thirty years, seven of the natives of this county were archbishops, (and five of them also primates), namely, Dr. John Bramhall, archbishop of Armagh, who was born at Pontefract; Dr. James Margetson, successor to the same primacy, at Drighlington; Dr. Samuel Pullen, (master of the Leeds free grammar school), archbishop of Tuam, at Ripley; Dr. Wm. Palliser, archbishop of Cashel, at Kirkby Wisk, where also were born the noted Richard Ascham, and the learned George Hickes; Dr. John Tillotson, archbishop of Canterbury, at Sowerby, near Halifax; and Dr. John Sharp, archbishop of York, at Bradford."——Congreve, the poet, was born at Bardsey grange, seven miles north of Leeds, as appears by the register of his baptism there; hence it seems that the date (1672) upon his monument in Westminster abbey is erroneous.——Isaac Bowcock by will bequeathed to the townships of Halifax and Ovenden, his lands in Ossett, that the rents might be yearly bestowed by his seven feoffees, "for preferring and putting forth five poor men's sons to trade, yearly, as are not to be put forth town 'prentices, or for the relief of such as are in necessity, (not through wasteful expense, or such as have relief from the parish), or for setting up in trade, or stocking hopeful young persons to make good use of it, at the discretion of the said trustees, and that £6 thereof shall yearly be given to Ovenden."

1670. The Rev. John Lake, residentiary of York, by endeavouring to stop the citizens and others from promenading the minster during divine service, brought a mob "about his ears," who robbed the cathedral of many of its goods and assaulted him in his own house, where he was rescued by Captain Honeywood."——"A Board of Trade was established, and the commerce and riches of England never at any period increased so fast as from the Restoration to the Revolution. During these forty years the shipping of England nearly doubled. Several new manufactures in iron, brass, silk, hats, glass, paper, &c., were established; and one Brewer brought the art of dyeing woollen cloth from the low countries."——The Leeds Corporation, with the consent of the vicar, ordered the pew in the parish church, commonly called the "Aldresses pew," to be enlarged and rendered more commodious, in order that the ladies attending divine service there, might, "with more freedome exercise their devotions."

1671. General Thomas Lord Fairfax died at Denton on the 12th of November.

1672-1674.

1672. The *Old Mill-hill* chapel, at the bottom of Park-row, was built about this time. Thoresby says, that "it was the first, and certainly one of the most stately fabrics, (supported by a row of pillars and arches), built after the first indulgence in the north of England." After doctrinal changes in 1767, the distinguished philosopher, Dr. Priestley became minister of that chapel, and resided in a small house in Basinghall-street. Here, the doctor, among other literary labours, wrote his "*Institutes*,"—2 vols. Svo.

This year half-pence and farthings were first coined in England.——29th Dec. Several parts of England suffered from floods and inundation. In Yorkshire and other counties, great damage was done, the water standing as deep as ten feet in many parts.——Thoresby mentions the only inscription in Armley chapel as bearing this date, and sacred to the memory of Neriah Simpson, A.M., who "always kept a purse of £20 to lend to the poor, honest, necessitated clothmakers at Armley, without interest, and always had it returned after their advancement in trade."

The Bank of England, consisting of forty merchants, was incorporated by the name of the Governor and Company of the Bank of England, under a proviso that at any time after the first day of August, in the year 1705, upon a year's notice, and the re-payment of twelve hundred thousand pounds, subscribed by the company, the said corporation should cease and determine.

1673. Dec. 18th. The commission appointed to enquire into the administration of the several charities within the borough of Leeds, and appointing trustees for the management thereof, ordered that all deeds and writings relating thereto should be safely laid up in a strong chest, to be provided for that purpose in the registry of the parish church of Leeds, which chest should be locked with three keys. These documents, with others collected by the corporation, and many of a later date, are at present deposited in an iron safe in the vestry of St. Peter's church, secured by three separate locks, of which one key is kept by the mayor, another by the vicar, and a third by the churchwardens.

1674. Feb. 25th. A great snow began to fall about eight in the morning, and continued for four days with little intermission; the frost at the same time being very severe. The whole country was covered several feet deep, and every description of business was brought to a standstill. Many persons were frozen to their saddles, and, according to the record of the time, saddle and man were

1674.-1675.

removed from the horse together.——John Milton, the author of “Paradise Lost,” died this year. He was born in 1608.

1674. Jan. 2nd. Curious inscription on a brass plate in the Leeds parish church:—

“Here lies his father’s eldest son,  
Whose name was Edward Waddington;  
Close by his grandfather, John Thwaites,  
Both snatched away by cruel fates;  
Whom God above, (wee hope), has blest,  
To live with Him in endlesse rest.  
Buried the 2nd Janvarie, 1674.”

The following memorandums are taken from the register of the same church:—

“1674. Feb 8th. The 8th day came the order for suppressing the popish and schismatical assemblies, dated from the Council Table, February the 3rd, (74).

1674. June 15th. The 15th day the first time, Messrs. Streeton Moss and Armitage, with their schismatical assemblies, was convicted by the oathes of Lawson and Halliwell apparatours. The second time, July the 19th.”

“1674. Nov. 8th. The 8th day, Geo. D. of Buckingham, with his Countiss, was at the church with L. Fairfax, who came to compromise the contentions betwixt the clothiers of Dewsbury and others.”

1679. “Aug. About the middle of this month, the chime first begun to goe: Brian Tesseman, churchwarden, principal promoter of it.”

1675. In December, an epidemic distemper prevailed at Leeds, York, Halifax, Hull, and other places. This disease was a severe cold and violent cough, the latter of which so interrupted the divine service, that Thoresby says, “it was almost impossible to hear distinctly an entire sentence of a sermon.”——Henry Lord Fairfax restored the Horn given by Ulphus to York cathedral, after it had been missing a number of years. The dean and chapter decorated it anew, but with brass instead of gold. It is an elephant’s tusk twenty-nine inches in length, and curiously carved, and was, till stolen from the minster, adorned with gold, hanging pendant from a chain of the same metal.——On the 11th of January was buried John King, of Hipperholme, near Halifax, aged 73. He was esteemed the best archer in England, was sent for to court in the time of Charles I. and “won great wagers,” as he did also during the civil wars at Manchester, where he was carried on men’s shoulders as the victor of the field, some of the  
L. of C.

1675.-1678.

gentry crying after him "a king, a king!" which alarmed the republicans, who cried out, "Treason, treason, a plot." Archery was highly esteemed by the Romans, and it is said that the emperor Domitian was so sure a marksman that he could shoot his arrows between the fingers of a boy without hurting his hand.

1675. A demand of toll was made about this time by the inhabitants of Wakefield from those of Leeds. The corporation of Leeds granted £50 for the purpose of defending any action at law which might be brought for the nonpayment thereof.——The first stone for the re-building of St. Paul's cathedral, London, was laid this year, and was finished in 1710, at the cost of £1,000,000.

1676. Feb. 15th. Died, aged 85, Gervas Nevile, Esq., of Holbeck, who was quarter master general to the marquis of Newcastle, in the rebellion of 1645, and was interred in St. John's church, Leeds.——Repeating clocks and watches invented. Clocks made to strike were invented by the Italians about the year 1300; and by the Arabians in 851. Clocks afterwards were set up in churches.

In 1677, Langdale Sunderland conveyed to five trustees certain messuages and land, upon trust, to employ the rents to teach the children of Wortley to read English or Latin. To this endowment William Farrar subsequently added a rood of land.

1678. James Margetson, archbishop of Armagh, a native of Drighlington, by will, dated 1678, endowed a school at Drighlington, with £60 a year, from an estate there, where he had previously built a school.——Here we have to narrate one of the most tragical events recorded in Yorkshire history, which took place at Beeston, near Leeds. A colliery owner, named Leonard Scurr, who had filled the office of minister of Beeston chapel during the time of Cromwell; having collected a considerable sum of money to take with him to London for the purpose of trade, the fact was made known to some of his neighbours, and on the night previous to his intended journey, being on the 19th of January, two ruffians of the name of Holroyd and Littlewood, with some other persons, entered his house at the early hour of eleven o'clock, and murdered the whole family, consisting of Mr. Scurr, his aged mother, and a servant girl, the latter of whom they beheaded, at the instigation of a wretched woman of the party. They then stripped the house and set fire to it, with the hope of concealing their delinquency. Holroyd soon after set off for Ireland, taking

1678.-1680.

with him a woman with whom he cohabited. While in that kingdom, suspicion fell upon the woman, who wore a gown and scarlet petticoat belonging to Mrs. Scurr, and which an old servant in the family saw and identified. In consequence of this discovery, both the woman and her paramour were apprehended and lodged in York castle, along with Littlewood, on whom suspicion had also fallen. At the Lammas assizes of 1682, the two men were tried and convicted, and Holroyd, who died a hardened and impenitent sinner, was executed for the offence on Holbeck moor, in the presence of 30,000 spectators. After the execution, his body was removed and hung in chains on the spot. Littlewood was reprieved in the hope that he would give some information, but what became of him afterwards is not known. The woman, who had probably not been engaged in the murder, does not appear to have been put upon her trial.

1679. There is an epitaph in the Leeds parish church to the memory of "Mrs. Jane, the truly dear and vertuous wife of Mr. Thomas Potter, of Leeds, merchant, who departed this life the 22nd Nov., 1679, aged 24 years."—

"This homely case a jewel doth contain,  
But shew'd the world, and so laid up again;  
With meek and chaste behaviour every grace  
Inrich'd, which beautifies the mind and face."

1680. In this year appeared the most celebrated comet upon record. Its head did not exceed in brightness a star of the second magnitude, and its tail was 160,000,000 of miles in length, covering 70 degrees of the heavens. "It was first seen on the 14th December, being the fourth day of the moon, the night being clear and frosty. It had a great blazing tail from the root of it, which was pointed as it came from the star, and then spread itself. It was of a broad and large ascent up to the heavens, so that when it was set in the west, and out of sight, yet did the stream of it mount near to our zenith. It is doubted if the like comet has been seen since the creation, and it is certainly prodigious of great alterations and of great judgments on these lands for our sins; for never was the Lord more provoked by a people than by us in these lands, and that by persons of all ranks."—*Laws memorials*. This comet struck a great fear into the minds of the people of Europe, in the

1680.-1684.

Catholic countries particularly. Kepler, the astronomer, had foretold long before that the conjunction of the planets Saturn and Jupiter in Leo, which occurs but once in 800 years, would, at the conjunction which happened at the time of the appearance of this comet, have a malign influence on the church of Rome. The alarm was furthermore increased by the Romish mathematicians declaring that the train of the comet was six times longer than that which portended the death of pope Alexander VII.——Wakefield experienced a dreadful storm and flood on August 26th, when Thoresby, the antiquary, being in the town, waded up to his midleg in water, to get to his quarters.

1681. The following proceedings took place at a court held in Leeds on the 20th of June, 1681, relative to the redemption of a son of Mr. Alderman Foxcroft, who had been taken prisoner by the Turks, and was then in captivity:—

“Forasmuch as this court hath bene credibly enformed by Mr. Alderman Foxcroft, a member thereof, that he hath a sonne lately taken by the Turkes, who was putt apprentice to one Mr. Robert Newport, captaine and owner of the good shipp the Adriatique, and in that voige was burser to the said shipp, his master having lost his life with his vessell, and the young man taken captive and carried prisoner to Algiers, and there sold for seaven hundred dollars. And that the some required for his redempc'on will amount to £350 sterling att the least, and his father not being in a condic'on to raise the same, hath craved the advice and assistance of this court; thp'on it is therefore ordered, that a gen'all collec'on be made from house to house in all constabeleryes and places in the said Borough. And that all p'sons, both householders, and others, will be pleased to give theire charitable contribuc'ons to soe pious a worke, as the Redempc'on of a Christian soule out of the hands of those barborous infidells. Ordered that a letter be writ to Hull in the name of the Corporac'on, to request theire charitable contribuc'ons to the furtherance of this pious worke.”

1683. Thoresby says there was upon a brass plate in St. John's church, Leeds, the following notice:—“Elizabeth, wife of John Gibson, of Leeds, vintner, aged 39, was delivered of two daughters, baptized Elizabeth and Sarah, the 13th December, 1683, and all three lie in one coffin here interred.”

1684. In the beginning of December, this year, the ‘Great Frost’ commenced, and continued till the 5th of February, without any intermission. The Thames was frozen over, and during Hilary Term, coaches ran on the river between the Temple and Westminster. A fair was also held on

1684.-1686.

the ice, booths erected, an ox roasted whole, and bull-baiting, and other sports took place. The frost was so intense, that the sea was frozen several miles from the shore, and, of course, all shipping transactions were brought to a close. On the 6th day of February, the day after the break-up of this great frost, Charles II. died, and James II. ascended the throne.——The Market for Woollen Cloth, formerly held on Leeds bridge, was removed into Briggate, June 14th, where it continued to be held until the erection of the cloth halls. This market was closed by the ringing of the bell at the old chapel, near the bridge, when the cloth and benches were immediately removed, and the street occupied by country linen drapers, shoemakers, hardwaremen, and sellers of wood vessels, wicker baskets, wanded chairs, flaskets, &c.

The charter of king James II. to the borough of Leeds bears date this year, January 1st., under which charter, Gervase Nevile, Esq., was first mayor.——This year died Sir Geo. Rawden, of Rawden, who, in 1641, with 200 Englishmen, repulsed Sir Phelim O'Neal, and 2000 Irish at Lisburne, in Ireland. Of the precise time when the present family became seized of the manor of Huddersfield we are not informed, but it is certain that John Ramsden, Esq., of Byrom, had a grant of a market here, by patent, dated Nov. 1st, 23 Chas. II. The parish church appears to have been re-built about the time of Henry VIII. The old font has the arms of France and England quarterly within the garter, and the initials E. R. in the character of Edward VI.——April 23rd, a dreadful fire happened within Clifford's tower, in York, and consumed all the interior to ashes, leaving nothing standing except the walls. Fortunately, only one life was lost, occasioned by the falling of a piece of timber, that had been blown up, probably by gunpowder lodged in the tower. It was generally believed to be designedly done, as the soldiers would not suffer the citizens to enter till it was too late to stop the progress of the flames, and the gunner had got out all his goods before it was discovered.

1685. The following is extracted from the register of the Leeds parish church:—

"John Thompson, dying at Hillows Bancke, was excommun'd, and was brought into the church yeerde, and ther left in hys wyndling shete, the fift day of August, and afts. buryed by some of hys friends in the nettles under the church wall, out of the common place of buryall."

1686. On the 18th of Feb., the whole of England was visited by a tempest, accompanied with thunder, which



1686.-1691.

committed general devastation. The inhabitants of Kettlewell and Starbottan, in Craven, were almost all drowned in a violent flood. These villages are situate under a great hill, whence the rain descended with such violence for an hour and a half, that the hill on one side opened, and casting up water into the air to the height of an ordinary church steeple, demolished several houses, and carried away the stones entirely!

1688. James II. displaced the lord mayor of York, *Thomas Raynes*, with several of the aldermen and others, and, on the 5th of October, appointed in their places Roman catholics, who were not even freemen of the city. This was a pretext for Raynes not delivering up the sword and mace. The office of lord mayor was, however, declared vacant till the 24th of the same month.

December, *watch and ward* were kept every night by the principal inhabitants of Leeds and other places, and heralds were flying about the country with despatches concerning king James II., and William of Nassau, prince of Orange.

On the 23rd of December, James II. left the country for France; and on the 13th February, in the ensuing year, James being held to have abdicated, William and Mary, prince and princess of Denmark, were proclaimed king and queen of England.

1689. On the 30th of August this year died Dr. John Lake, sometime vicar of Leeds, and afterwards bishop of Chester. He was one of the seven bishops who were committed to the tower of London in the reign of James II., but positively refused to take the oaths of allegiance to William III., and prepared for a deprivation, but was removed by death in his 66th year.—In the winter was a remarkably long frost, and booths and sports upon the river Aire at Leeds.—During this year the charter of king Charles II., to the borough of Leeds was restored by William and Mary, and is yet in force excepting where it is inconsistent with the Municipal Corporation act.

1691. The large *bell* in the steeple at Halifax was cast this year, on which are the following words:—

“All you that hear my mournful sound,  
“Repent before you lye in ground.”

On the 30th of August a mortal sickness broke out in the city of York, by which 11,000 persons died.

The Call Lane chapel was built this year. The rev. and pious Mr. Thos. Whitaker, was the pastor, descended from the deservedly famous Dr. Wm. Whitaker.

1693.-1694.

1693. On the 8th of September, a severe shock of an earthquake was felt in England; and on the same day the chief town in Jamaica was wholly destroyed from a similar cause, and about 3,000 persons killed.

In this year John Harrison was born at Foulby near Pontefract. He was the son of a carpenter, and brought up to the same trade. Drawn on by his natural taste, he applied himself to practical mechanics and clockmaking, and succeeded in constructing instruments of a then unattained excellence. To him the world owes the compensator, a pendulum composed of metals, which, being unequal in the degrees of their dilation by heat, compensate and correct each other. He also invented a clock for ship-board, which the motion of the vessel could not disturb. He made a chronometer to determine the longitude at sea within the limits required by act of parliament, 12th of Anne. For this last invention the Royal Society of London gave him a prize of £20,000. He died in 1776.

1694. On the 3rd of March, this year, the common council of Leeds gave the sum of £40 as an encouragement and in consideration of Henry Gillert, of Leicester; and George Sorocold, of Derby; for laying an engine to convey water from the river Aire through the streets to all the houses in the town of Leeds, who should wish to purchase the same of them, and exempted them from taxes.

April 3rd. A most lamentable fire broke out in a flaxman's house in Ousegate, York, which consumed about thirty houses.——*Archbishop Tillotson* died November 22nd, aged 65. He was born at Sowerby, near Halifax. He was the son of a respectable clothier, who initiated him in nonconformity, which, however, in maturer years he rejected. His first employment in the church was that of curate of Cheshunt, in Hertfordshire. In 1662 he was offered the parish of St. Mary, Almondbury. In 1666 he took the degree of doctor in divinity, previous to which he had married a niece of Oliver Cromwell. In 1670 he was made prebendary of Canterbury, and two years after dean of that church, having previously obtained a stall in St. Paul's cathedral. He was seven years on the list of chaplains to Charles II., and was the means of converting the earl of Shrewsbury to the Protestant faith. He was consulted by the princess Anne of Denmark, on the claim she had on the British crown. In May, 1691, he was consecrated archbishop of Canterbury, and was immediately afterwards sworn a member of his majesty's privy council.

Thomas Osborne, marquis of Caermarthen, &c., was

1694.

created duke of Leeds, by William and Mary, on the 4th of March, 1694. Near to Kiveton park is Harthill church, under which, in a spacious vault, are arranged in splendid coffins, the remains of many of the ancestors of this noble family.

The following epitaph was once legible in Armley chapel yard:—"Susanna Vevers, died July 22nd, 1694.

Since she is gone, why should we weep or cry?

It was God's will to give and tak, and try

The parent's patience, and if good he see,

He can give mine if that his pleasure be."

At the court of quarter sessions, at Leeds, about this time, it was ordered that Anne, the wife of Philip Saule, a person of lewd behaviour, be ducked for daily making strife and discord amongst her neighbours. The like order was made against Jane Milner and Elizabeth Wooller. The punishment of the "Ducking Stool" is very ancient. The Saxons called it the "Scealping Stole," or "Scolding Stool." In the time of Henry III. it was styled "Tomberell," or "Tumbrill." It was afterwards called the "Trebucket," or "Cucking Stool. There was a Ducking Stool at Quarry-hill, Leeds, near the spa. At Morley, near Leeds, there was one which was originally situate somewhere about where the "Pinfold" now is, and was removed to Morley hole, upon the opening of the quarry for repairs of the roads. Its final remove was to the "Flush Pond," at the other end of the town, and near "Ratten-row."—"Riding the Stang," upon a fight between husband and wife, was another mode of correcting manners. This custom was very common during the last century, and may even now (1859) be occasionally witnessed in the neighbouring villages. A wanton wag, with plenty of gab, is carried through the street on a stang or pole, followed by all the rag-tag of the village with old tin cans and sticks, drumming and shouting as they march along. When the "nomine" is to be repeated they halt, while the wag aforesaid pronounces aloud some doggeril lines, beginning,

"Ran—tan—tan—tan—

It's neither your cause nor ours that we should ride the stang;

For you may hear by the sound of my frying-pan

That Mistress——has beat her good man," &c., &c.

At the conclusion of which the youngsters give a tremen-

1694.-1697.

dous shout and march off to the next street. This practice is continued for three nights, then the effigy of the offender is burnt in front of his or her own door, amidst the exclamation of neighbours that it "sarves her reight."

Another curious custom now little practised, was that of "thrashing" or pelting common people with old shoes on their return from church, upon the wedding day.

1694. Committees were appointed by the corporation of Leeds, to "swear at any time and place within the town any person whatsoever, a free man of the town and borough, upon such terms and considerations as to them should seem reasonable."——The sum of £60 lls. was paid to Mr. Arthur Monjoy, goldsmith, Briggate, for making the mace now used by the mayor of Leeds. He was executed at York in 1696, for counterfeiting coin. The mace is of silver gilt, and measures four feet eight inches in length. The shaft is beautifully engraved and ornamented. The head is encircled by a border of foliage, and is divided into four compartments, containing the national insignia of England, France, Scotland, and Ireland, surmounted by the royal crowns of these kingdoms. The whole is surmounted by the imperial crown of great Britain. The weight of the head of the mace is 123 ounces.

1695. The window tax in England was first established this year.——Robert Taylor, first clerk of St. John's church, in Leeds, died, aged 92 years. He is supposed to have held the appointment upwards of sixty years.

The archbishop of York presented Mr. Thoresby, of Leeds, with several brass coins of Osbright and Ella, two Northumbrian princes, who both of them fell in the year 867, warring against the Danes. These coins were taken out of a remarkable tumulus at the north-east end of the town of Ripon, and at a short distance from the minster. The tumulus, commonly called Ellshaw, or Alice-hill, is nearly of a conical form, the circumference at the base being about 900 feet, and the height of the slope 72 yards. From the base to the summit, it is wholly composed of sand, gravel, and human bones.

1696. One of the king's mints was established in the manor house, in York, without Bootham bar, and bullion and plate coined there to the amount of £380,621, which was issued in consequence of the old coin being called in.

1697. Ripon demanded tolls from the inhabitants of Leeds, which, being refused, Thoresby, the antiquarian, was requested to consult his manuscript collections, to see

1697.-1700.

if he could find any document to justify the demand. After diligent search, he found the copy of the charter of Henry VIII, and a reference where the original was lodged, which, being borrowed of the vicar, was produced at the assizes, and gained the victory, their's of Ripon being only granted by queen Mary.

1699. The river Aire was made navigable to Leeds, and the Calder to Wakefield, by an act of parliament obtained by the "Aire and Calder Navigation Company," who in 1760 extended the navigation of the Calder to Salterhebble, (since by a canal to Halifax.) A canal has been cut from the Aire at Knottingley, which saves a distance of seventeen miles in the navigation from Leeds to Hull. The Aire has its source near Malham, (within twenty miles of the source of the Wharfe), and flows for thirty miles through the romantic and fertile valley of Airedale, passing Skipton, Keighley, and Bradford, to Leeds, where it begins to be navigable. It then proceeds to Castleford, where it is joined by the Calder; the united streams then pass on by Ferrybridge and Snaith, and flow into the Ouse, near Howden, which last river, having become augmented by the Wharfe, the Nidd, the Ure, the Swale, the Derwent, and the Aire and Calder, enters the Humber near Blacktoft, and the vast accumulation of waters roll into the German ocean.——The Leeds Friends' meeting house and school erected. Thoresby says, the Friends had a burial-place at Leeds as early as 1673, their original cemetery at Morley being too remote from the town. It appears that there was also part of an orchard at Knostrop devoted to the same purpose, by Mr. John Stable, who resided there, and was "tainted with quakerism, then new sprung up in these parts." Two tombs found there in Thoresby's time, bore the dates 1692. The old chapel in Leeds falling into decay, was pulled down, and the present edifice was erected on its site in 1788.

1699. Jan. 27th. Thomas Sawyer, being elected an assistant of the Leeds corporation, declined to accept office on the ground "that his father had laid an injunc'on upon him to the contrary," whereupon he was fined £20.

1700. About this time the lord of the manor claimed a penny for every piece of undressed cloth sold in the hall at Halifax, and received weekly from that impost thirty and sometimes forty shillings. Great quantities of coloured cloth were then sold in the butchers' shambles, and the cloth market began at six in the morning in summer, and eight in the winter.——This year the church at Keighley was modernized, and made uniform; the body of the church by the parish, and the choir by Mr. Gale, the rector.

1700.-1702.

About this time the Calls, in Leeds, is said to have "consisted of a footway through verdant fields and flowery gardens," and Thoresby says, "that alderman Cookson had erected here a very pleasant seat with terras, walks, &c."

1701. At Waddington, in Craven, Robert Parker, of Browsholme, founded an hospital for ten widows; the trustees to choose one sober and orthodox person to read daily morning and evening prayers; also to take care that the chapel of the hospital never be converted into a school, or to any other use but to the worship and service of God, &c. In 1719, the rental of the estate belonging to this hospital was £66 8s.; in 1799 it amounted to £254.——*York castle*, which was founded by William the Conqueror, was now so decayed by age, that it was wholly taken down, and a new structure erected for the county prison, to which considerable additions have been made, at the cost of several hundred thousand pounds.——*Mary Law*, by will dated Feb. 4th of this year, devised her estates at Lower Woodhouse and Rastrick, in trust for the maintenance of four poor widows, in the township of Rastrick, and to the use of a school for teaching twenty poor children to read and write, to be chosen within the townships of Rastrick and Brighouse.——At a court held at Leeds on the 10th May, this year, it was ordered that "every member, assistant, or common councill man" of the corporation, except "old Mr. Hargreave," should provide himself with a suitable gown under a penalty of £5; and also attend the mayor to church upon festival days and other public and solemn occasions, under a penalty of one shilling. The gowns were ordered to be black, faced and trimmed with black velvet, or plush, and with long hanging sleeves.——In the philosophical transactions for this year, is the following remarkable passage from Leigh's history of Cheshire:—"In draining Martin meer, a few years ago, were found multitudes of roots and bodies of great firs in their natural position, with great quantities of their cores and eight canoes, such as the old Britons sailed in; and in another meer was found a brass or bronze kettle, beads of amber, a small millstone, the whole head of an hippopotamus, and human bodies entire and uncorrupted."

1702. At Lofthouse, near Leeds, a smith worked with two hammers, one of which, by an ingenious contrivance, he moved with his foot, enabling him to have the use of his left hand to hold the iron, while he struck with his right: thus saving the expense of a labourer.——In the neighbourhood of Eccup moor and Addle, near Leeds,

1702-1704.

were discovered the ruins of a Roman town, which seems to have been very considerable, for, in digging no deeper than necessity obliged to make way for the plough, as many stones were extracted as served to build two walls, the one a yard high and twenty-seven roods long: the other a yard and a half high, and fifty-two roods long. They were rough stones, the foundations of houses, many of which were three or four courses high. Fragments of urns of a very large size were also found; and the remains of two funeral monuments, one inscribed PIEN-TISSIMA, another D, M, S. CADIDINIÆ, FORTUNA PIA V, A, X, (*Vixit Ann, X.*)——In November, this year, the Leeds corporation ordered the sum of £12 to be allowed out of the public stock, to be expended at a treat, to commemorate the successes of the British army abroad, with a proviso “that whoever staves to spend above that, they shall pay it out of their own pockets.”——*John Milner, B.D.*, an eminent scholar, sometime vicar of Leeds, died this year (Feb. 16) at St. John’s college, Cambridge, whither he had retired, being dissatisfied with the oaths imposed on the accession of William III.

1703. A card, of which the following is a copy, is preserved at York, in the house or inn to which it refers, and which may serve to show the accelerated speed with which we travel now, compared with that of our forefathers:—“York four days coach, begins the 18th of April, 1703.” “All that are desirous to pass from London to York, or from York to London, or any other place on that road, let them repair to the Black Swan in Holbourne, in London, and the Black Swan, in Coney-street, York, at each of which places they may be received in a stage coach every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, which performs the whole journey in four days, if God permit.”——Nov. 26. A remarkable storm of wind through the whole of this night, was particularly destructive in the metropolis, the damage which it occasioned in the city alone, was estimated at two millions sterling, and the suburbs equally suffered. Several persons were killed by the fall of buildings, and near 200 were wounded. All the ships in the river but four were driven from their moorings, and the destruction at sea far exceeded that on land, twelve men of war, with 1800 men on board, were lost within sight of the shore, and the Eddystone lighthouse was swept away by this storm.

1704. About this time the new French fashions were adopted by courtiers, physicians, and other professional



1704.-1707.

persons in England, also the higher order of gentry, and continued during the reigns of Geo. I. and II. This dress of the old English gentleman, as it afterwards came to be called, consisted of a periwig in formal curls, partly contained in a silk bag on the shoulder, a small cocked hat, full bottomed coat, short breeches, blue or scarlet stockings drawn over the knee, and square-toed shoes, with small buckles and high red heels. Coats were made of velvet, silk, or satin, as well as broad cloth, and their colours were very fanciful.——The female attire of the eighteenth century was formal and tasteless. The most odious piece of attire introduced in the early part of the century, was the large whalebone petticoat, which degenerated into the hooped petticoat, and made a lady to appear as if standing in an inverted tub. In the reigns of Geo. I. and II., straw bonnets, loose gowns, called *sacques*, hooded silk cloaks, small muffs, and ornamental aprons were worn, with the watch, necklace, and the fan, which was sometimes from twelve to eighteen inches in length, and beautifully made. Spanish broad-cloth, trimmed with gold lace, was used for ladies' dresses, and fur-belowed scarfs were worn from the duchess to the peasant.

1705. Sir William Lowther, who was born in Leeds, near the church, in Kirkgate, died this year. He was high sheriff of the county in 1681.——Died this year, the Rev. Christopher Nesse, M.A., who had been ejected from the parish church of Leeds, where he had been lecturer first to Mr. Stiles, and afterwards to Dr. Lake. The Bartholomew act obliged him to preach privately, and then the five-mile act banished him from Leeds, but when the times grew more favourable, he returned and preached at his own house in Hunslet.——*David Hartley, M.D.*, author of "Observations on Man," was born at Armley, August 30th, and died at Bath, in 1757, aged 52. He was the son of a clergyman, and successively the pupil of Dr. Saunderson, Sir Isaac Newton, and Mr. Locke, after receiving an academical education at Cambridge.

1707. May 1st. England and Scotland became united, and the island thence called Great Britain. The union of Great Britain with Ireland took place in 1801.

Sylvester Petyt, Esq., by his will, left £24,018, Old South Sea annuities, and a library at Skipton. The objects of which donation are, persons, wherever resident, standing in need of immediate relief, according to the discretion of the trustees, and amongst whom the re-

1707.-1710.

mainder of the income is annually distributed, after paying £20 a year to Christ's college, Cambridge, small salaries to a schoolmaster and librarian at Skipton, and for putting out annually about fourteen poor children apprentices in the county of York, and for buying books for the use of the school. Boys are admitted free of expense indefinitely throughout the parish.—The *Rev. Thomas Wright, B.A.*, author of the antiquities of Halifax, was born at Blackburn, in Lancashire, in this year: he was several years curate of Halifax, and afterwards perpetual curate of Ripponden.

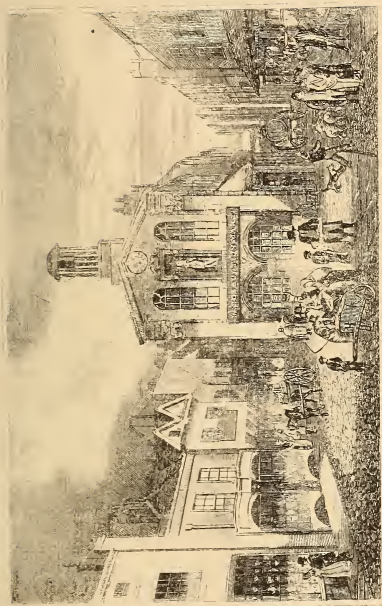
1708. A very interesting collection of Roman coins were found this year at Cookridge, near Otley.—A contested election for the return to parliament of two members for Yorkshire, took place this year. The result of the poll was as follows:—

<i>Lord Viscount Downe,</i>	4,737.
<i>Sir William Strickland,</i>	3,452.
<i>Colonel D'Arcy,</i>	3,257.
<i>Sir Arthur Raze,</i>	3,139.
<i>Mr. Wentworth,</i>	958.

1709. The 22nd Nov., being a day of thanksgiving for the success of the British forces, the Leeds corporation attended divine service at the parish church, after which, they agreed to "meet againe att Mrs. Owen's, att 5 of the clocke in the evening, to drinck to her majesty's health and further good success"; the expenses of the evening to be at the "corporac'on's charge."

1710. October 9th, the great court leet and court baron were held in the free school at Leeds, which was fitted up accordingly, with conveniences for both juries.

On the 12th October, 1710, Richard Wilson, Esq., barrister-at-law, was elected recorder of Leeds; but her majesty refused to assent to the election, and John Walker, Esq., of Headingley, was elected in his stead, by her majesty's letters patent.—The ancient Moot Hall was rebuilt, in front of which stood the pillory and the stocks. It was sold along with the shops and rooms beneath it, under the authority of an act of parliament for the improvement of the town of Leeds, passed in 1824. The purchase money, which amounted to £3,043 6s. 8d., was laid out in the purchase of stock, to be appropriated to the use of the poor. It was demolished in 1825. The White Cloth Hall was erected where the old hospital stood.





1711.

1711. In the Leeds parish church there is an epitaph to the memory of Mr. Jer. Barstow, who died 25th of April, this year, as follows:—

Death neither youth nor age doth spare,  
Therefore, to follow me prepare;  
Whilst life doth last, let piety  
(As it was mine) your practice be:—  
Let virtue crown your days, and then  
We happily shall meet again.

An attempt was made to prevent merchants sitting as representatives in the House of Commons.——John Atkinson, Esq., was mayor of Leeds this year. He subsequently built the house at the corner of Call-lane and Duncan-street, which Thoresby says “is a delicate house; that for the exquisite workmanship of the stone work, and for a painted staircase, excellently performed by Mons. Parmentier, excels all in the town.” This building was many years the post office, and residence of Mark Temple, Esq., then postmaster of Leeds. It was purchased and taken down to make room for the Central Market, which now occupies the site.

The following list of miscellaneous benefactions was formerly preserved in the old church, at Leeds, and was made out in the year 1711:—

1600. Baron Savile's decree concerning the toll-dish, was a third part to the bailiff (now to the mayor) of Leeds, a third part to the poor, and a third part to repair the market-stead and highways. 1616. William Rushworth gave the moiety of a shop in the Shambles, of the yearly rent of 18s. 4d., to the poor of Leeds, and the other moiety to the poor of Whitkirk. 1620, The Town Hall was built with monies belonging to the poor, which now yields them £22 16s. 8d. 1633. John Marshall gave out of the close, called Well Ing, in Sheepscar-lane, 30s. to the poor of the town and parish of Leeds. 1636. Ewan Story gave a close at Cross-Green, called Poorfolks Close, of the yearly rent of 50s.; the overseer of the poor paying out of the said profits 10s. yearly to the lecturer of the old church. 1636. John Swanson gave two houses near the Park-Butts, of the yearly rent of 30s., another house near the same, of the rent of 18s. per annum, which is to be paid by the overseers to four of the poorest shoemakers in Leeds town and Kirk-gate. Mr. James Cotes, who built the chapel at Headingley, left £28, the interest to be paid to the minister of that chapel. 1638. Mr. Henry Watkinson left £10, the interest to be paid to the lecturer of the old church. 1638. Mrs. Alice Lodge gave the profits of a close in Woodhouse-fields, called Cringles, of the yearly rent of £5, for the good of the town of Leeds, to be disposed of by her executors. 1639. Mr. John Harrison, alderman, (the noble founder of the new church) gave the hospital near the said church for

poor indigent people to dwell in, leaving towards their maintenance houses and lands in the New-street and Tenters, of the yearly rent of £52 5s., and also the undivided moiety of Flay-crow mill, in the Tenters. He gave also his houses and lands in the Head-row and Vicar-lane, of the yearly rent of £30, the profits thereof to go for the preferment of his sister's children, and their issue; and for want of such, to the better maintenance of the poor in the abovesaid hospital.

1642. Mr. Samuel Casson gave the undivided moiety of a farm, called Maukland's farm, at Brome-hill, of the yearly rent of £6 15s. 8d., to the poor of the town and parish of Leeds. He gave also £100 for ever, to be lent by the aldermen and vicar to twenty poor tradesmen, such as have charge of wife and children, gratis, for one year or longer, they giving good security for the true payment of the same again.

1644. Mr. Josias Jenkinson (who built the almshouses upon the Mill-hill) gave a farm in Great Woodhouse, of the yearly rent of £10, to be distributed at Christmas by his trustees, for ever.

1653. Mrs. Isabel Leighton, gave, for the benefit of the poor, and for poor children's learning, the profits of three closes in Woodhouse, of the yearly rent of £6 10s., to be disposed of by her trustees.

1658. Mr. Joseph Hillary gave £20 to increase the stock of the company of Cloth-workers. Mr. John Thoresby, alderman, gave a rent-charge of 20s. per annum to the poor, out of a piece of ground at the town-end, called the Paddock.

1665. Captain Thomas Ambler gave £30, and (1676) Mr. Christopher Watkinson, alderman, £20, which two sums are put together and lent out for the benefit of the poor, and are to be disposed of by the mayor, aldermen, and common-council of Leeds.

1671. Benjamin Wade, Esq., gave £200, with which was purchased a rent-charge of £10 per annum, which is yearly given to the minister of Headingley chapel, the Rev. Mr. John Killingbeck, trustee.

1673. Money paid unto the committee of pious uses, upon the redemption of Mr. Hazle's mortgage for the use of the poor, the sum of £150.

1676. Samuel Sunderland, Esq., gave several tenements, to the value of £6 per annum, to a school in Wortley, with power to erect upon the Common a school, which was done at the charge of the inhabitants.

1679. Mr. Thomas Idle gave £100, the yearly profits to be paid to a preaching minister at Holbeck chapel, or, if there be a vacancy for six months, to Armley chapel: Thomas Lee, Mr. Robert Hetherington, Mr. Martin Huntington, and William Lambert, trustees.

1687. Mrs. Elizabeth Atkinson gave £50 to the poor of Leeds, which is in the hands of Edward Atkinson, Esq.

1696. Mr. John Robinson gave a house, which, being unfinished, was sold for £20, which sum was employed towards the erection of a new house for the minister of Armley chapel; he also gave three cottages to the poor.

1699. Mr. William Calverley, alderman, gave £110, the interest to be yearly distributed by the mayor, vicar, and two senior aldermen, to the poor of Leeds.

1703. Mrs. Ann Moxon gave £100 to the poor of Leeds.

170— Mrs. Eleanor Scudamore gave £50 to the poor; with which two sums, and £10 paid by the committee, were purchased two closes in Pontefract-lane, of the annual rent of £8.

1708. Mary Bland, widow, left a rent-charge of £3 per annum out of her houses in

1711.-1713.

Cripplegate, to the Charity-school, or other pious uses; Mr. Bryan Dixon, Mr. Ralph Thoresby, Mr. Jacob Sympson, trustees. 1708. George Ellis, of Brampton-Byerley, gent., gave £50 to the Charity-school, to be laid out in lands. — Mr. George Banister, of North-hall Grange, gave the rents of a farm of £6 per annum, clear rent, at Sutton, near Ferrybridge, to take place after his death, for a salary to an organist, when an organ shall be set up in the parish church of Leeds, or St. John's chapel there; and till then, to be disposed of to such charity as his trustees, viz., two of his nearest relations, in conjunction with the mayor, recorder, one of the eldest aldermen, the vicar of Leeds, and the minister of St. John's chapel, all for the time being, shall think most meet. 1710. Bryan Dixon, of Hunslet-lane, gent., bequeathed £10 to the Charity-school. 1711. Mr. Samuel Cookson, of Leeds, merchant, gave by will £20; and, 1711. Mrs Mary Calverley £10: both to the Charity-school. Mr. William Cotton, merchant, gave £50 to the same some years ago.

1712. July 2nd, the mayor of Leeds, &c., delivered an address to queen Anne, at Kensington, which her majesty received very kindly, looking very pleasantly on all present, and curtsying, as his grace the duke of Leeds told her he could assure her majesty it came from a populous and loyal corporation, that was both willing and able to assist her majesty, if there was occasion, but which he hoped there never would be.—Died the Rev. Mr. Stretton, who had been domestic chaplain to lord Fairfax, after which he was minister at Mill-hill chapel, Leeds, till the year 1677, when he removed to London, where he died. The celebrated Matthew Henry preached his funeral sermon, in which he gave him a very high character.

1713. The white marble statue of queen Anne, executed by Carpenter, was, at the expense of alderman William Milner, erected in front of the Moot hall, in the year 1713; and the following inscription in letters of gold upon black marble, was subsequently ordered by the corporation to be placed thereunder, at their expense:—

"ECCE! INSIGNEM STATUAM LONDINENSI (ULTRA IPSAM PAULINAM LONDINENSEM) INSIGNISSIMÆ REGINÆ ANNÆ OMNI LICET IMAGINE LONGE MAJORI PIC CONSECRATEM. ET A GULIELMO MILNER, ARMIGERO, PRUDENTI JUSTICIARIO, FIDELI SUBITO GENEROSO CIVE OPULENTO MERCATORE, PENITUS EXTRUCTAM."

*(Translation,)*

"MARK THIS ELEGANT STATUE, (SUPERIOR EVEN TO THAT OF ST. PAUL'S IN LONDON), PIOUSLY CONSECRATED TO OUR MOST ILLUSTRIOUS, QUEEN ANNE, (THOUGH FAR SURPASSING EVERY REPRESENTATION;) AND ERECTED AT THE SOLE EXPENSE OF WILLIAM MILNER, KNIGHT, A PRUDENT JUSTICE OF THE PEACE, A FAITHFUL SUBJECT, A NOBLE CITIZEN, AND AN OPULENT MERCHANT."



1713.-1715.

This statue was removed to the Corn Exchange at the top of Briggate in 1828, and the following is the inscription now beneath it:—

THIS STATUE OF QUEEN ANNE WAS ERECTED  
AT THE COST OF ALDERMAN MILNER  
IN THE FRONT OF THE ANCIENT MOOT HALL, A.D., 1712;  
WAS RESTORED AT THE EXPENSE OF THE CORPORATION;  
AND TRANSFERRED TO THIS SITE, A.D., 1828;  
THE MOOT HALL HAVING BEEN PURCHASED BY THE TOWN  
AND DEMOLISHED, A.D., 1825.

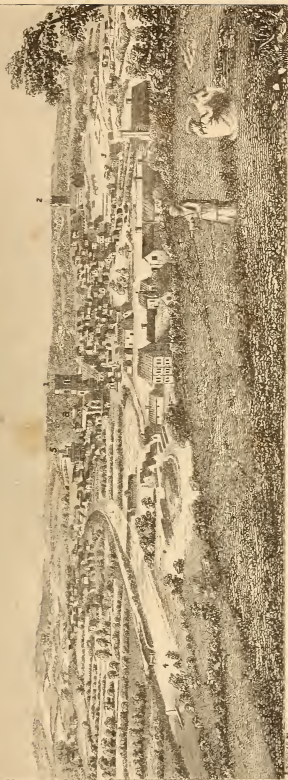
There were great rejoicings at Leeds, and a splendred procession and festival in honour of the queen, on the day when her statue was erected.

1714. The interest of money in England was fixed by act of parliament at 5 per cent. George 1st, the first king of the house of Hanover, ascended the British throne, August 1st, this year.—On November 1st died John Radcliffe, M.D., a native of Wakefield, and the most celebrated physician of the British court, though remarkably blunt and unreserved in his conversation, even before his royal patients, and detesting, through his whole life, the character of a sycophant. On going to London he found his reputation had arrived there before him, and such was his success that he soon amassed a large fortune; and his apothecary by his means accumulated £50,000. Being sent for to Kensington, to see William III., his majesty showed him his swelled ancles, saying, well doctor, what do you think of these? "Why truly," replied the Yorkshireman, bluntly, "I would not have your majesty's two legs for your three kingdoms." His frankness also gave much offence to Queen Anne, whom he refused to attend during her last illness: this brought upon him so much censure, that he was obliged to confine himself to his country seat, where he soon afterwards died, having for many years been as free with his bottle as his tongue. He was buried at Oxford, having left a large portion of his property to the university there.

The organ in Leeds parish church set up and first used on Sunday, August 29th; Mr. John Carr, from Norwich, organist. The south gallery was also erected this year.

1715. *Thoresby's Ducatus Leodiensis*, containing the history and antiquities of Leeds, in one folio volume, was published this year. Appended to his history is a copious catalogue and description of his collection of curiosities.

At this time there were in Boar-lane, several good houses belonging to Sir William Lowther, but they were sold in



PUBLISHED BY JOSEPH JOHNSON.

*Ancient View of Leeds from Cross Green. 1802.*

1. Parish Church, 2. St. John's, 3. Charity School, top of Lady Lane, 4. Aire, 5. Alderman Atkinson's House, the present Site of Central Market, 6. Call Lane Chapel, Other Turrets in this Prospect, the new Cloth Hall, Alderman Cookson's and Mr. Thoresby's.



1715.-1718.

1732 to Sir William Rooke, and re-built in 1750 by Mr. J. Dixon. In the same street was also another good mansion, belonging to Sandford Arthington, M.B., in right of his wife, whose father, Marmaduke Hickes, Esq. was four times chief magistrate of Leeds.——Keighley grammar school was founded by John Drake.——The vane and one-third of the spire of the church at Wakefield, having been blown down, were partially restored this year.

A considerable quantity of Roman coins were found at Beeston.——*John Kellingbeck, B.D.*, vicar of Leeds from 1690 to 1715, was a native of Headingley, and eldest son of John Kellingbeck, Esq., who was mayor of Leeds, in 1677. "He was," says Thoresby, "a singular blessing to this populous parish and parts adjacent." His ministerial abilities were so conspicuous, that Archbishop Sharp (who collated him to a prebend of York,) publicly at a visitation proposed him as an example to the clergy both in preaching and practice. He first introduced in this parish a monthly communion, which still continues. He died universally lamented, Feb. 12th, 1715-16, aged 66 years. A volume of his sermons has been published. It is said he was so habitually generous that his spouse found it necessary frequently to remove money from his pocket by night, and place it in her own safe keeping.

1716. About this time a curious antique stone, five inches high by four broad, representing the head of a female, (supposed to be Lucretia's) was found in digging a cellar near the ruins of St. Mary's abbey, York.

1718. The Leeds Mercury, then published weekly, on Tuesdays, was first printed this year, July 1st, by "John Hirst, over-against Kirkgate-end." During the first two years of its existence this now popular journal consisted of twelve small quarto pages, the first of which is ornamented with a rude wood cut, representing the Golden Fleece, and a fat old postman, with a wig, and a low-crowned and broad-brimmed hat, blowing a straight horn, and appearing to gallop on a heavy bob-tailed horse, under which was printed, in large type, "THE LEEDS MERCURY, being the freshest advices, Foreign and Domestick, together with an account of trade," &c., &c.—The paper then sold for three-half-pence, and the editor of that day appears to have considered the local affairs of his own town and neighbourhood to be too well known to require noticing: during the whole of the period alluded to, the Mercury contained nothing but brief extracts from the London papers, with the weekly metropolitan bills of

1718-1721.

mortality, and casualties. The Mercury was afterwards published by James Lister, in New-Street; the price was 2d., and the stamp a halfpenny; it was discontinued on the 17th of June, 1755, and, after an interval of eleven years and a half, was resumed by Jas. Bowling, in January, 1767. On the 4th of October, 1794, the Mercury devolved into the hands of Messrs. Binns and Brown, by whom it was transferred, on the 7th of March, 1801, to the late Edward Baines. The present proprietors and editors are Messrs. Edward and Frederick Baines, and the paper is now published three times a week, Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays, at their office in Albion Street.

1719. Oct. 8th. Mrs. Rachel Dixon, by will, devised a messuage in Briggate, and two houses in Lowerhead-row, in trust, (in case of a contingency, which has since happened) the rents and profits to be yearly equally divided amongst three necessitous clergymen's widows, whose husbands should have died beneficed, in some of the adjoining parishes to that of Leeds; the dispensing of the bounty to be in the hands of the vicar, and the minister of St. John's for the time being and for ever.

1720. Jan. 23rd. Mr. Robertson, in the presence of the magistrates of Leeds, and about 5000 spectators, swam upon the river Aire in his *leathern boat*, which, before he inflated it with a pair of bellows, was so small and pliable, as to be folded up in a handkerchief, if not put into the pocket. Mr. Robertson was born in France, of Scotch parents.——At a short distance above the great gateway of Bolton priory, stood the "Priors' Oak," which was felled about this time, and sold for £70. According to the price of wood at that time, it could not contain less than 1400 feet of timber.——At a court held at Leeds, on the 7th of May, it was "agreed and ordered by a majority of votes, that no more money shall for the future be expended at any publick or com'on treat out of the corporac'on's stock, until the corporac'on is out of debt."

1721. Inoculation for the small pox first used on criminals. Vaccine Inoculation (cow pox) first known in 1799.

The South Sea Scheme, which ruined many Yorkshire and other families, was now exploded, and John Aislabie, a member for Ripon, was expelled the House of Commons, for secretly burning a ledger, containing accounts to the amount of £842,000, belonging to the unfortunate dupes of the projectors of this monstrous bubble, the bursting of which reduced many to beggary, and ought to become a lasting caution to future speculators. The outlines of this

1721.-1723.

notorious scheme are as follows:—Ever since the Revolution, the government had continued to borrow money from several trading companies, and among the rest, from the South Sea Company, who, under the pretence of being satisfied with less interest, proposed to buy up all the debts of the nation, and for this purpose were allowed to raise money by opening a subscription to a scheme for trading to the South Seas. Such was the rage for purchasing shares, that, under the expectation of great gains, the government creditors hastened to exchange their stock for that of the South Sea Company, whilst others sold their estates, and called in their mortgages, &c., to become shareholders in this vile scheme, which succeeded far beyond the anticipation of its projectors, many of whom were afterwards punished by parliament, who also took some care to redress the sufferers.

1722. At Ripponden, near Halifax, there happened on May the 18th, 1722, “a most remarkable flood, which, with great violence did break into the chapel, and by its weight and pressure bear down and carry away the greatest part of the north side, with the stones and timber thereof, and pews therein, and tore up the graves and carried away many dead bodies, and left their parts scatter’d in the river and on the banks, a great many miles distance; and so undermined the remainder of the chapel, and shook and damaged the walls, that it was absolutely necessary to re-build it on higher ground, to prevent the like danger for the future. Accordingly, a new fabric was erected, and consecrated September the 9th, 1737, by Dr. Martin Benson, then lord bishop of Gloucester.” Between the hours of three and five in the afternoon, the water had risen seven yards perpendicular in Ripponden vale, and bore down in its course several bridges, mills, and a number of houses; many persons also lost their lives.——The first stone of Trinity church, Leeds, was laid on the 27th of August, by the Rev. Henry Robinson, son of Henry Robinson, vicar of Leeds, and great nephew to “the Benefactor,” who endowed it with £80 in land; the church was consecrated by archbishop Blackburn, on August 10th, 1727. The fabric cost £4,563 9s. 6d., towards which, lady Elizabeth Hastings, of Ledstone Hall, gave £1000. The stone, which was got at Black moor, was given by Mr. Killingbeck, a Roman catholic, of Hooton Pagnell.

1723. The summer of this year was remarkable for an extreme drought, which prevailed generally: at York, the waters of the Ouse were reduced, till the base of the

1724.-1727.

middle arch of Ouse bridge was completely dry for several yards round.

1724. John Smeaton, the celebrated mechanic and civil engineer, was born at Austhorpe, near Leeds, June 8th. When the Eddystone Light house was burnt down in 1754, he was selected to superintend the building of another, and he accomplished this great monument to his abilities and perseverance in 1759. He was afterwards employed in a great number of useful undertakings, and among other things, he made the Calder navigable. He died at Austhorpe, October 28th, 1792.

The inscription on the monument in Whitkirk church, near Leeds, to this celebrated man is as follows:—

“Sacred to the memory of John Smeaton, F.R.S., a man whom God had endowed with the most extraordinary abilities, which he indefatigably exerted for the benefit of mankind, in works of science and philosophical research; more especially as an engineer, and a mechanic. His principal work, the Eddystone Lighthouse, erected on a rock in the open sea, (where one had been washed away by the violence of a storm, and another had been consumed by the rage of fire,) secure in its own stability and the wise precautions for its safety, seems not unlikely to convey to distant ages, as it does to every nation of the globe, the name of its constructor. He was born at Austhorpe, June 8th, 1724, and departed this life October 28th, 1792.”

1726. The Old Chapel, near St. John's church, in Leeds, was converted into a charity school.—John Smythe, Esq., formerly of Heath, near Wakefield, left by will, certain messuages, &c., in Halifax, the income of which is paid by the governors to a schoolmaster, appointed by them, for teaching as free scholars, six children to read and write, and the surplus is appropriated to supplying an allowance of 16s. a year to the schoolmaster, for every child beyond the six, whom he instructs in the same way.

1727. Sir Isaac Newton died, aged 85.—The Leeds vicarage house, which, with the land it stood upon, was given in 1453 by William Scott, of Potternewton, was rebuilt this year by the Rev. Mr. Cookson, and after standing nearly a century, it was taken down, and the site and croft converted into a large free market. The inhabitants purchased a handsome house in Park-place, as the future vicarage house.—*Tong Church*, in the parish of Birstal, was re-built by subscription in 1727.—The honourable Thomas Watson Wentworth was elected representative for Yorkshire, with Sir George Savile; but being created Baron Malton in 1728 he was succeeded by Cholmley Turner, Esq.



1728.-1733.

1728. On the 8th of May, this year, it was ordered that the Mace supplied to the Leeds corporation by Mr. Arthur Monjoy, should be re-gilded, and the old silver mace sold to defray the expenses thereof. The work was performed by Mr. Isaac Hancock, whose bill amounted to £15 13s. 5d., and the old Mace was ordered to be sold to him at the rate of 5s. per ounce. Another coat of gold was given to this badge of office in 1771, in addition to which it has a few years ago undergone a complete repair.

1729. Mrs. Mary Potter died May 31st, and bequeathed £2000 for the erection and endowment of the alms houses, near St. John's church, in Leeds, which, pursuant to her will, were built in 1738.

1730. Leeds bridge was enlarged for double carriages, and two men were killed during the alteration.

1733. Sept. 8th. Some workmen digging a well at Carlton, discovered a vaulted sepulchre, eight feet long and five feet broad, about eighteen feet beneath the surface, wherein was found a set of large human bones, as white as ivory, and a helmet standing over the head, in a niche. On the wall were sculptured some Saxon characters, and the date "992," being 74 years previous to the Norman conquest.—The Rev. James Scott, D.D., rector of Simonburn, a descendent of the benevolent Mr. Harrison, was born at Leeds, in 1733. His fame as an orator was such, that whenever he preached, the church was crowded to excess. This was the case whenever he occupied the university pulpit at Cambridge, which he frequently did during his residence there. Noblemen, bishops, heads of houses, professors, tutors, masters of arts, undergraduates, all flocked to St. Mary's to hear him. His first employment in the church was the lectureship of St. John's, Leeds. He was afterwards lecturer at the Trinity church, which he vacated at the end of the year. Some time after he was presented to the rectory of Simonburn, in Northumberland, which he held till his death, which took place on the 10th of December, 1814, in his 81st year.

The following *Springs in Leeds* are noticed in the *Magna Britannia*, (published in 1733), as follows:—"St. Peter's Spring, intensely cold, but beneficial to such as are troubled with rheumatism, rickets, &c.; *Eye-bright Well*, near the Monk-pits, celebrated as a cure for sore eyes; a spring at the *High Dam*, 'whose water, by the powder of galls, will turn into a purple colour'; and the *Spaw on Quarry-hill*, which surpasses all the rest, 'being a *Panacea*,' and the *Ducking Stool*, for the cure of scolds, being near it."

1734.-1735.

1734. A contested election for the return of two representatives for Yorkshire, commenced on Wednesday, May 15th, and closed on Wednesday, May 22nd, when the numbers polled were as follows :—

<i>Sir Miles Stapylton</i> , . . . . .	7,896.
<i>Cholmley Turner</i> , . . . . .	7,879.
Sir Rowland Winn, . . . . .	7,699.
Hon. Mr. Wortley, . . . . .	5,898.

In the city of York, an elegant figure of *Saturn*, formed of mixed metal, was discovered in Walmgate, supposed to have been one of the *Penates*, or household gods of the Romans.——July 2nd. Fifty sheriffs of London were chosen in one day: thirty-five of whom paid their fines. In 1414, owing to the wars, there were not respectable persons enough to serve the office. Anciently, in England, ladies were appointed sheriffs. They were first nominated by William the Conqueror, in 1079. The present mode of appointing them has been followed since about 1461.

The inhabitants of Ossett, a village three miles from Wakefield, have been employed in making broad woollen cloth from time out of mind. In this year, the weavers, &c, employed in that trade, had to work fifteen hours every day for eightpence. A horn was blown at five o'clock in the morning, the time for beginning, and at eight at night, the time for leaving their work. The clothiers had to take their goods to Leeds to sell, and had to stand in Briggate in all sorts of weather. About the year 1736, Richard Wilson, a resident of Ossett, made two pieces of broad cloth; he carried one of them on his head to Leeds, and sold it—the merchant being in want of the fellow piece, he went from Leeds to Ossett, then carried the other piece to Leeds, and then walked to Ossett again; he walked about forty miles that day.——The following is a copy of an inscription in the church yard of Heyden, in Yorkshire:—"Here lieth the body of William Strutton, of Padington, buried the 18th of May, 1734, aged 97; who had by his first wife, 28 children, and by a second wife, 17; was father to 45, grandfather to 86, great grandfather to 97, and great great grandfather to 23, in all 251."

1735. On the 9th of February, died Mr. Thomas Bridges, of Leeds, whom Dr. Whitaker designates a "true antiquary," remarkable for industry and exactness in recording the transactions of this town for a series of years.

In consequence of petitions from the woollen manu-

1735.-1739.

facturers of Yorkshire and Westmoreland, two bills were passed by which the ports of Lancaster and Great Yarmouth were opened for the importation of wool and woollen yarn from Ireland.—The price of bread and other provisions being greatly advanced, owing to an exportation of corn, on which there appears to have been a bounty, tumults in various parts of the kingdom took place, and at Leeds a detachment of the king's troops were obliged to fire on the rioters, eight or nine of whom were killed.—July. At the Northampton assizes, Mary Fasson was condemned to be burnt for poisoning her husband; and Elizabeth Wilson to be hanged for picking a farmer's pocket of 30s.

1736. It was resolved by parliament, "that those persons whose freeholds lie within that part of the city of York, called Ainsty, have a right to vote for knights of the shire."——— This year Francis Drake published his "Eboracum, or the history and antiquities of York, from its origin to the present time."

1739. *Lady Elizabeth Hastings*, of pious and benevolent memory, died December 22nd, at Ledston. In 1721 she gave £1000 towards building Trinity church, in Leeds. This excellent lady bequeathed at her death considerable sums for charitable and public uses; amongst which were five scholarships in Queen's college, Oxford, for students in divinity, of £28 a year each, to be enjoyed for five years, and, as the rents should rise, some of her scholars to be capable, in time, of having £60 per annum, for one or two years after the first term. The Free Grammar School, at Leeds, is entitled to send one poor scholars to be nominated, in common with the following similar establishments, viz., Wakefield, Bradford, Beverley, Skipton, Sedberg, Ripon, and Sherburn, in Yorkshire; Appleby and Haversham, in Westmoreland; and St. Bees and Penrith, in Cumberland. A stately monument in Ledsham church, afterwards augmented with the statues of her two amiable sisters, records in elegant Latin the character of this ornament of her sex. Her own figure is placed on a sarcophagus reclining, and reading a book of devotion, and the countenance, which is a portrait, is handsome and spirited. Lady Frances and lady Ann Hastings are placed on pedestals at the sides, and are represented with the emblems of piety and prudence.

*Nicholas Saunderson, LL.D.*, who was born in the year 1682, at Thurston, near Penistone, died this year, and was buried in the chancel at Boxworth. When only twelve

1739.

months old, he lost not only his sight, but his eyes, which came away by abscess, occasioned by the small pox, so that he retained no more idea of colours or light than if he had been born blind; yet he became mathematical professor in Cambridge university, and a fellow of the royal society. He frequently delivered lectures on optics, explaining the theory of vision, the nature of light and colours, the effects of glasses, the phenomenon of the rainbow, &c. Such was the strength of his memory, and the acuteness of his perception, that whatever was read to him, or explained, though the subject was ever so abstruse, he soon became master of it. Having been at several celebrated schools, and obtained a familiar knowledge of mathematics, logic, and metaphysics, he went to Cambridge not as a scholar but a master. Being introduced at Christ college by his friend Mr. Dunn, a commoner there, the "fellows" were so much pleased with his extraordinary genius, that they allotted him a chamber, and granted him the use of their library, and every other privilege of the college, where his lectures were first read by Professor Whiston, on whose removal he was made Master of Arts and chosen Lucasian Professor of Mathematics in 1711. He made an excellent inauguration speech in elegant latin, being well versed in Tully, Virgil, and Horace. He was created LL.D. by George II., in the senate-house of the university, and continued to rise in learning and fame till his death, in the 57th year of his age.

*Richard Turpin*, the notorious highwayman, was hanged at York, in April, 1739, and on the following morning his body was interred in St. George's church yard; but on Tuesday morning, about three o'clock, it was taken up by "resurrection men," and secreted in a garden, where it was found by a mob of citizens and the mourners of the deceased, who carried it off in triumph through the city, and having replaced it in the coffin, covered it with unslacked lime, so as to render it unfit for the dissecting room, and then filled up the grave. This daring thief frequently levied contributions as near London as the back of Islington, and in a few hours after was robbing in a distant county, and by his equestrian agility, he long evaded the strong hand of justice.—A bill passed, prohibiting the exportation of wool and corn.—In digging a cellar, near Ouse bridge, on the west side of York, a gold coin of Constantius Junia was found. The head was armed with

1739.

a helmet, and the figure held a spear in one hand; on the reverse side, a priest and priestess seated.

The following curious memorandums are copied from the register of the Leeds parish church:—

"1735. June. Mr. John Burton, a merchant in this town, whose uncle, one of the Tellers of the Exchequer, made him his executor to a fortune of 90,000 pounds—married M<sup>rs</sup>. Sarah Reveley, of this town, whose fortune he gave to her sister, M<sup>rs</sup>. Rachel Reveley."

"N.B. Sir Miles Stapylton, of Myton, bart., being chosen county member of parliament in the late election, had more votes of both clergy and laity out of this parish than out of any one parish in the county."

"June 3rd. Burial. Israel Benjamin, Vicar-lane; he was born of Jewish parentage, at Breslaw, in Germany, became a Christian, and was baptized at Dublin, in Ireland, in the 45th year of his age."

"1737. Aug. 28th. Burial. Richard Turner, a taylor, Kirkgate, *this used* to preach extempory in the church porch."

"1739. Jan. A sheep was roasted whole upon the ice in the river. Feb. 22nd. The frost broke when the ice in the river was 15 inches thick in some places. Nov. War declared against Spain."

"1740. May 5th. On the 5th of this month was a great snow. Dec. A great scarcity of provisions: hay sold in some places at 18d. a stone; butter, 9d. a pound; malt, 40s a quarter; wheat, 24s. a load."

"1741. Aug. The most plentiful corn harvest ever known."

"1743. Jan. A comet appeared very fair for about six weeks, which caused various speculations:—

"If comets portend dismal Fates,  
When visible to divers States;  
Now various nations disagree,  
What strange confusions must there be?  
When the British Lyons begin to roar,  
Then France and Spain shall dread their power;  
Then all conventions soon shall cease,  
And Britons win a lasting peace."

This comet was one of the finest bodies which had occurred since 1680. It had as many as six tails; each 4 degrees in breadth, and 30 to 44 degrees in length.

"1743. July 25th. Burial. William Cookson, Esquire and Alderman N.B.—He was thrice mayor of this corporation of which he was the greatest ornament.—His virtues shined with an amiable lustre, thro' the various scenes of life. He was a pious christian, a generous benefactor, an honest tradesman, a tender husband, an indulgent parent, a sincere friend, and a complete gentleman. Sept. The most plentiful harvest that ever was known."

"1744. April 10th. War declared against France."

"1745. July, the last day, Charles, the eldest son of Chivalier de St. George landed in Scotland, and was soon joined with about 6 or

1739-1740.

7000 men, who came into England as far as Derby, but upon the advance of the king's army, they marched back into Scotland."

"Dec. For two nights, about 13,000 of the king's foot, (with 20 pieces of brass cannon), encamped in the closes on the west side of Shipscar-lane, English, Dutch, and Swiss. Rebellion is a plague: when broke out, it has no bounds; fury triumphs, and the Devil the postillion, and knows how and when to throw his charioteer into a snare."

"1747. April 23rd. Lodged that night in the Moot Hall 68 Jacobite captives: 61 men and 7 women, in they'r passage from York (where they had been imprisoned about twelve months) to Liverpool, to be transported."

"May 16th. His Grace Archbishop Herring confirmed about 5000 young persons."

"1748. Sept. Mr. Moses Vanderbank painted the Ascension in the church."

"1749. On the sixth of February, and the sixth of March, the citizens of London were surprized by two earthquakes."

1739. In the year 1443 there were in Halifax but 13 houses; in 1556 there were 140; and in 1739 there were above 1100 families in the town. The name of Halifax, if we are to believe Cambrden, cannot boast of any great antiquity. He says, (in his *Britannia* London edit. 1587.) "that not many ages since it was called Horton, as the natives say, and tell this story for the change of the name. A certain clergyman, being passionately in love with a young woman, when he cou'd by no means gain his point, cut off her head in a mad fit, which was afterwards hung up in a yew-tree, and esteem'd and visited by the people as *holy*, so that every one pluck'd a bough off, to keep as a *relick*. By this means, the tree grew a mere trunk, but still the fictions of the priests kept up the opinion of its honour and sanctity: for they made the people believe that the little veins, which, like hairs or threads, were spread between the bark and the tree, were the very hairs of the young woman. This caus'd such a great resort of *pilgrims* to it, that from the little village of Horton it became a large town, and assum'd the name of Halifax, i.e., holy hair, for *fax* is us'd by the English on the north side of Trent to signify hair; and hence the noble family of *Fairfax*, in Yorkshire, is so called from their fair hair."

1740. At this period, two very curious Roman urns were dug up near the Mount, without Micklegate bar, York; one of glass was broken by accident, and found to be coated inside similar to a looking glass, with a blueish silver colour; the other was of lead, and was sold by the workmen to a plumber, who beat it together and melted

1740 -1742.

it down.—*Wm. Sheephanks* was born March 18th this year, in the village of Linton, Craven, and was educated at the grammar school of the parish. In 1771-2 he served the office of moderator at the university; in 1777 he removed to Leeds, and in the same year, by the active friendship of Dr. John Law, he was presented to the living of Sebergham, in Cumberland. In 1783 he was appointed to the cure of St. John's church, Leeds; in 1792 he was collated to a prebend in Lincoln cathedral, which he exchanged in 1794 for a much more valuable stall at Carlisle. He died at Leeds, July 26th, 1810, and was interred at St. John's.

Sir Miles Stapylton and lord viscount Morpeth were returned for Yorkshire without opposition. In consequence of the death of lord Morpeth, a contested election took place in December, 1741. The poll was open eight days, and the result was as follows:—

*Cholmley Turner*, . . . . . 8,003.

*George Fox*, . . . . . 6,940.

1741. An old granary, formerly belonging to Kirkstall abbey, was this year taken down. It was covered with slate, brought 500 years before from Elland, near Halifax, which was almost as hard as steel.—In an enclosure adjoining to Blackhill, near Cookridge, was found an urn, containing about 500 Roman coins, all copper, and mostly of Constantius and Constantine his son. It is supposed they were buried there when the Romans left the island.

1742. July 14th, died, aged 80 years, *Richard Bentley*, a native of Oulton, who received his education at Wakefield free grammar school. He was master of the Greek, Latin, Hebrew, Syriac, and Chaldee languages. In 1689 he was patronized by the bishop of Worcester, and soon after began to favour the world with the fruits of his extraordinary erudition. In 1692 he was installed a prebend of Worcester, by bishop Stillingfleet, and in little more than a year after he was made keeper of the Royal library, at St. James's. In 1700, he was advanced by the crown to the mastership of Trinity college, Cambridge. In 1701 he was made archdeacon of Ely, and in 1716 or 1717 he was raised to the dignity of Regius Professor of Divinity at Cambridge; which chair he filled with great honor and most splendid talents, though not to the satisfaction of the envious.

The *Rev John Wesley* arrived May 26th at Birstal, (the first place where he stayed in this county), and preached



1742.-1743.

"at noon on the top of Birstal hill, to several hundreds of plain people." At eight he preached on the side of Dewsbury moor; went to Newcastle, and returning came to Beeston. June 3rd, he preached at Mirfield, the same evening at Adwalton, and the 8th of April following, at Leeds.

Mr. Wesley informs us in his journal, "May 29th, 1743, that, not a year before, he had come to Leeds, and found no man cared for the things of God: 'but,' he observes, 'a spark has now fallen in this place also, and it will kindle a great flame. I met the infant society, about fifty in number, most of them justified, and exhorted them to walk circumspectly. At seven o'clock, I stood before Mr. Shent's door, and cried to thousands, '*Ho! every one that thirsteth, come ye to the waters!*' The word took place. They gave diligent heed to it, and seemed a people prepared for the Lord. I went to the great church, (parish church), and was shewed to the minister's pew. Five clergymen were there, who a little confounded me, by making me take place of my elders and betters. They obliged me to help in administering the sacrament. I assisted with eight more ministers, for whom my soul was much drawn out in prayer. But I dreaded their favour, more than the stones at Sheffield."

The following copy of a letter addressed by this celebrated man to his brother at Leeds, is curious:—

"London, Dec. 9th, 1758.

"My dear brother,—From time to time I have had more trouble with the town of Leeds than with all the societies in Yorkshire. And I now hear that the *leaders* insist that such and such persons be put out of the society! I desire the leaders may know their places, and not stretch themselves beyond their line. Pray let me judge who should be put out of a Methodist society, and who should not. I desire Faith and Ann Hardwick may not be put of the society, unless some matter appear against them; and if any new matter does appear, let it be laid before me. He shall have judgment without mercy who hath shewn no mercy."

"I am your affectionate Brother,

"J. WESLEY."

1743. March 7th. At Huddersfield, the foundations of a Roman temple were found, with many beautifully ornamented bricks, and an altar, having a patera at the summit, on one side a cornucopia, and an augural staff on the other. The edifice had been dedicated to the goddess Fortune, by one Antonius Modestus, or Modestinus, of the sixth conquering legion.

1744.-1745.

1744. This year, Eugene Aram, a schoolmaster, residing at Knaresborough, murdered a shoemaker named Daniel Clark, and concealed his body in St. Robert's cave. The foul deed remained enveloped in mystery till fourteen years afterwards, when the skeleton of the murdered man was discovered. An accomplice named Houseman, being apprehended and examined, confessed his participation in the crime, adding however, that Aram perpetrated the deed. Aram was forthwith arrested at a grammar school, at Lynn, in Norfolk, and being brought into Yorkshire, he was tried and found guilty of the offence, notwithstanding an ingenious defence more remarkable for subtlety of argument than for force of reasoning. Sentence of death followed immediately on conviction. In the interval between the trial and execution, Aram wrote a paper claiming a right to dispose of his own life. This privilege he exercised; and when on the morning of the execution he was roused from his bed to be conducted to the gallows, it was found that he had inflicted upon his arm two such desperate wounds with a razor, that the performance of the executioner was scarcely necessary to terminate a life that was fast ebbing out at his veins. He was executed at Tyburn, a mile from York, and his body was conveyed to Knaresbro' forest, where he was hung in chains.

1745. In this year, a carpenter discovered in a field near the top of Briggate, in Leeds, at the depth of about two feet, an urn, containing ashes, calcined bones, and a stone axe perforated for a shaft. It was of rude formation, imperfectly baked, and ornamented after the usual manner of the Britons, with encircling rows of indentations: it measured about twelve inches in height, and was placed with its mouth upwards, having a cover, which was broken by the workmen. These relics are unfortunately lost.

The rebellion of this year, when the kingdom was invaded by prince Charles Edward, eldest son of the pretender, threw the town of Leeds into great alarm, and many of the inhabitants fled and others concealed their most valuable effects. Marshal Wade's army was encamped at this period between Leeds, Sheepscar, and Woodhouse, (about Wade-lane, Camp road, &c.) General Wade, is said to have quartered during the encampment in Wade hall—an old stone building of the Elizabethan style of architecture, situate opposite the top of Merrion-street, in Wade-lane. This was the last encampment which in time of actual war on English ground has

taken place in this island. The alarm fortunately proved groundless, the march of the Pretender's army being directed towards Derby by way of Manchester. At this momentous crisis, the whole county of York gave the most unequivocal proofs of loyalty to the reigning dynasty, and attachment to the reformed religion. The archbishop, the nobility, gentry, and clergy, formed a military association, and, having subscribed about £34,000, raised several regiments of soldiers.——GENERAL GUEST, who commanded the king's troops at Edinburgh, during the rebellion, was a native of Leeds, and the son of a cloth-dresser, a business at which he himself laboured in the early part of his life. His judicious defence of Edinburgh castle contributed to retard, in a very considerable degree, the progress of the arms of Stuart, and thereby rendered a very essential service to his country.

1746. August 18th. Lords Kilmarnock and Balmerino were beheaded on Tower-hill, for their participation in the project for the restoration of the house of Stuart to the throne of Great Britain; and on the 7th of April, in the next year, Simon, lord Lovat suffered at the same place, when twenty persons were killed, and many others injured by the falling of a scaffold.——The duke of Cumberland visited York, after the defeat of the rebels at Culloden, where the hopes of the house of Stuart were annihilated. The citizens had previously raised a subscription, amounting to £2,345, with which four companies of men, called the *York Blues*, were embodied for the safeguard of the city during the rebellion. Twenty-two of the rebels were executed at York, and two of their heads placed on Micklegate bar.

In the winter of this year, the dormitory of Kirkstall abbey fell down.——After the death of the Rev. Joseph Cookson, vicar of Leeds, a contest and litigation of six years ensued, owing to one of the twenty-five trustees nominated under a decree of lord Bacon having died, and the remaining twenty-four divided their votes equally between two candidates, viz. James Scott, M.A. and Richard Kirshaw, M.A. Thus the matter rested till one of the twenty-four died, and the twelve friends of Mr. Scott strove to enforce his election, which the other eleven trustees rejected, and demanded a popular election. Mr. Kirshaw was chosen by the major part of the parishioners. Several bills were now filed in Chancery, where at length it was ordered that the trustees should fill up their number to twenty-five, which was done, and Mr. Kershaw was re-elected, and inducted in 1751.

1746.-1748.

In this year the grass withered in the fields, leaves fell prematurely from the trees, and neither rain nor dew fell for several months. Prayers were offered up in the churches, to implore the bounty of refreshing showers.

1747. This year the cell of the noted hermit, Wm. of Lindholme, was remaining on Hatfield Chase, near Thorne, also his well of clear spring water was to be seen; at the east end of the cell stood an altar of hewn stone, and at the west end was the hermit's grave, covered with a free stone slab, eight inches thick. Under it were found the skull, leg, and thigh bones, and a small piece of beaten copper.—Oct. 10. Died, aged 73, the *Rev. John Potter*, a native of Wakefield, and the son of Mr. Thomas Potter, linen draper. At the age of 19, he published a critical work, which attracted the attention of men of learning, and soon afterwards wrote the antiquities of Greece, which gained him much celebrity. In 1704, he was chaplain to archbishop Tenison; and in 1706 chaplain to the queen. In 1715, he was bishop of Oxford, and in 1736 archbishop of Canterbury. In each of these stations he published works of great utility: he was the highest dignitary in the church for ten years.—Sir Miles Stapylton and Sir Conyers D'Arcy were elected representatives for Yorkshire without opposition.

1748. The following has been copied from a manuscript written at the time of the occurrence:—"1748. March. Thos. Grave was most barborously murdered in his own house by a domineering villanous lord of the manor, Josiah Fearne, 24th Feb., 1748, with four wounds in his body of which he died 2nd Mar. Fearne was taken and committed to York castle, and tryed before Sir Thos. Burnett, was committed and hanged 25th March, 1749. Soon after Fearne was condemned, he sent an attorney to Mrs. Grave to offer her twenty pounds a year for her life, or for twenty years to come, at her own option, in case she wou'd sign a petition to the judge in his favour, (which Fearne said, was a sufficient recompense for the injury he had done to her and her eight children) but she prudently declin'd the offer, well knowing there is no satisfaction to be made for the blood of a murderer. This probably is the first lord of the manor of Leeds that made his exit on the gallows, and God grant that he may be the last. Fearne's temper was extremely rigid to the poor and his dependents, that he was dreaded by all and beloved by none. He was buried at Clifton, near York, 31st March."——Sir Henry Ibbetson, of the Red Hall, Leeds, as a reward for

1748.-1753.

his loyalty, was created a baronet, and had, as an honourable addition to his armorial bearings, the Golden Fleece, the arms of his native town of Leeds, ingrafted on his paternal coat.

1749. In this year the Leeds corporation purchased a pew in Trinity church, for the sum of £24. In 1793 a large pew in St. Paul's church was purchased at a cost of £147. In 1801 a pew was purchased in St. James's church, at a cost of £29. 8s. The corporate body subsequently appear to have had pews in St. Mary's church, Quarry-hill; Christ's church, Meadow-lane; and St. Mark's church, Woodhouse.

1750. The Wesleyan Methodists obtained a lease for ninety-nine years of an old house and piece of land, on which they erected their first chapel in Leeds.——Lord Viscount Downe was elected for Yorkshire in the place of Sir M. Stapylton, who was appointed one of his majesty's commissioners of the customs.

1751. Mrs. Catherine Parker, of Leeds, left by will, dated September 3rd, th s year, the sum of £500, for the benefit of the poor inhabitants of Harrison's hospital, in Leeds.

In this year there was an act passed (24 Geo. II.) for making the calendar in England correspond with that used in other countries of Europe. It was enacted that eleven days should be omitted after the 2nd of September, 1752, so that the ensuing day should be the 14th; and in order to counteract a certain minute overplus of time, that the years, 1800, 1900, 2100, 2200, 2300, or any other hundredth year which shall happen in time to come, shall not be considered as leap years: except only every fourth hundredth year, whereof the year 2000 shall be the first.

Christmas day was the ecclesiastical beginning of the year, till pope Gregory XIII., in 1552, ordered it to begin on the 1st of January. In France and England, the same practice commenced about the same time; but in the latter country, it was not till 1752 that legal writs and instruments ceased to consider the 25th of March as the beginning of the year; hence, when it was necessary to express a date between the 1st of January, which was the commencement of the historical year, and the 25th of March, which opened the legal one, error and confusion were sure to occur, unless it were given in the following awkward fashion: 1648-9.

1753. In June, a serious riot took place at Leeds, in consequence of an attempt being made to improve the public roads, and several turnpike bars were demolished. Some

1753.-1754.

persons were wounded, in an attempt to demolish the turnpike house at Harewood bridge, which was defended by Edwin Lascelles, Esq., with a number of his tenants and workmen. On the following Saturday, a carter refusing to pay the toll at Beeston turnpike, was seized by the soldiery, but rescued by the populace, before he could be conveyed before the trustees of the turnpike, at the King's Arms Inn, in Briggate. The mob assembled again in the evening, for the purpose of rescuing three other prisoners, apprehended the night before, and proceeded to break the windows and shutters of the King's Arms, and to tear up the stones of the pavement, to throw at the soldiers. Having already knocked down the sentinel, the military received orders to fire, which they did, first with powder, and on this producing no intimidation, with ball, by which two or three persons were killed, and twenty-two wounded.——On the 5th of November, this year, the Leeds corporation ordered one hundred guineas to be paid towards obtaining an act of parliament for "erecting a court of conscience, for the recovery of small debts within the borough of Leeds, and for making a common sewer, and for paving, cleansing, and enlightening the said town of Leeds."——The British Museum was established this year. George IV. gave his father's library to it in 1827——The corporation of Leeds chose Mr. Barstow to be town clerk, but the king ordered Mr. Atkinson to have the place, then worth £200 a year.

1754. The "*Leedes Intelligencer*" was commenced on Tuesday, July 2nd, this year. The office at that time was in Lowerhead-row. It has thus had an uninterrupted existence of more than 105 years. For several years it was published on Tuesday; afterwards the publication day was changed to Monday; then to Thursday; and, lastly, to Saturday. Its original proprietor was Mr. Griffith Wright, who was succeeded by his son, Mr. Thomas Wright, and he again by the late Mr. Griffith Wright, the grandson of the first-named gentleman. After existing in the family of its founder for nearly 65 years, the *Intelligencer* was transferred to other hands at the close of 1818, and its proprietorship passed through various hands, till it solely came into those of Mr. Kemplay, in April, 1849.

Count Zinzendorf, who had afforded an asylum on one of his estates in Germany to a company of persecuted descendants from the ancient Moravian church, visited Pudsey, in the township of which some persons, both natives of Britain and foreigners, who had formed a con-

nexion with that church, were building a settlement, which they called Grace Hall, or Lamb's Hall, but which soon after received the name of Fulneck. It was completed in 1753, and was intended for a centre of evangelical usefulness, a temporary residence for the missionaries on their way from Germany to heathen countries, and a place for educational institutions. The principal buildings are erected in a line on the side of a rather steep hill facing the south, and consists of the chapel—a neat stone structure, with the minister's dwelling and ladies' school attached; the boy's school; and houses for single men, single women, and widows. In front of these is a terrace, upwards of one-eighth of a mile in length, bordered by gardens, and commanding a very beautiful view of a richly wooded valley, on the opposite side of which lie the hall and grounds of the Tong estate.

The chapel, handsomely built in the Italian style, accommodates about 600, and has a very good organ. The burial-ground, often inspected by strangers, is remarkable for its pleasant situation, and the symmetry and plainness observed in it, nothing being allowed to mark each grave but a small head-stone. In the schools, the children of the Moravian ministers are educated, forming, however, the smaller portion of the total boarders. The boys number in general about 60, and the young ladies about 50. There are besides, separate and flourishing day-schools. In the sister's house the well-known beautifully executed Moravian needlework is made. The settlement contains also a comfortable board and lodging-house, where conveyances may be had on hire.—The White Chapel, in Hunslet-lane, Leeds, was built this year. The Rev. J. Edwards, the first minister, was succeeded by the Rev. Edward Parsons, who was afterwards appointed to Salem chapel, of which he was long the pastor.—After much opposition, the Rev. Mr. Fawcett, on the fourth attempt, succeeded in reading prayers at the chapel at Holbeck, guarded by a party of dragoons. The Rev. gentleman subsequently resigned the curacy.—The commissioners of charitable uses advertised at Leeds July 9th, to receive complaints of breaches of trust, &c.—Elias Patefield, of Northowram, aged 100, and his wife, aged 99, died nearly at the same time: they had been married 60 years,

He first departed, she for one hour tried  
To live without him; lik'd it not and died.

April 19th, about 11 at night, the shock of an earthquake,



1754.

or a great explosion in the air, was felt at York and ten miles round. At Whitby, Hull, and several parts on the sea-coast, the same trembling was sensibly experienced by the astonished inhabitants, during a few seconds of time.

Scatchard says, that "in the early, and even middle part of this century, in the neighbourhood of Batley, and such hilly grounds, manure was carried into the fields by what were called "Hotts," square boxes or crates, which hung like panniers over the backs of the horses, and which were, generally, managed by women. They had opening doors in the underside, through which the tillage was discharged upon the land; and while one box or pannier was emptying, the other was borne up by an assistant, or else by, what we call in Yorkshire, "a Buck." This account I received from very respectable old people at Batley, and I have since met with an article in Bocket's glossary, which corroborates it by shewing that such usage prevailed in other parts. "I have heard old people say," writes Mr. Bocket, "that between the confines of Yorkshire and Westmoreland, it was common for the men to employ themselves in knitting, while the women were engaged in the servile employments of carrying these "Hotts" upon their backs." It has been remarked to me that Hott is Hod, but I would prefer deducing it from the French word Hotte, signifying a scuttle, dosser, or basket, to carry on the back. The same writer says, there were a description of travellers, formerly very numerous in these parts, which deserve notice here, viz. :—the "Bell Horses." I have a faint recollection of them passing through Morley twice a week, on Mondays and Thursdays as I am told. They were called pack horses, from carrying large packs of cloth, &c., on their backs. These bell horses and their drivers were the chief conveyances during the middle ages, and down to the times of the great civil war. By means of them, not only various goods, but letters, and even young Oxford and Cambridge students, were passed from various parts of the kingdom. We have an interesting account of them in the 25th volume of the *Archæologia*, just come out. "Imedyatly after that comunycacion (says the writer), we mete one Stephen Amore, a man of Nottyngh'en comyn from Stamfford, dryving horses loddyn with cloth before him," &c. Stephen, it appears, had been at Bury, (probably Bury in Lancashire, or Bury St. Edmonds, in

1754.-1755.

Suffolk), and like all his brother carriers, was a famous newsmonger and politician.

“When I saw the bell horses at Morley, passing on to Dewsbury and Thornhill, the first horse only wore a bell. The roads were then narrow and rugged, with deep ruts, and the causeways, generally, were single and uneven. The bell horses always kept this foot path, and forced therefrom travellers of every description, so that on dark nights, and especially in the winter time, the bell of the proud leader was a most useful appendage. These roadsters ceased to travel, sometime, as I fancy, about 1794, but I cannot ascertain the precise date.”——Sir Conyers D’Arcy and Lord Viscount Downe were returned as members for Yorkshire without opposition.

1755. In this year the act of parliament of the 28th Geo. II., cap. 41, was passed, entitled “an act for enlightening the streets and lanes, and regulating the pavement in the town of Leeds.” The preamble of this act is as follows:—“Whereas the town of Leeds, in the county of York, is a place of great trade and large extent, consisting of many streets, narrow lanes and alleys, inhabited by great numbers of tradesmen, manufacturers, artificers, and others, who, in the prosecution of and carrying on their respective trades and manufactures, are obliged to pass and repass through the same as well in the night as in the day time: and whereas several burglaries, robberies, and other outrages and disorders have lately been committed, and many more attempted within the said town, &c., and the enlightening the said streets and lanes, and regulating the pavements thereof would be of great advantage, and tend not only to the security and preservation of the person and properties of the inhabitants of the said town, but to the benefit and convenience of strangers and persons resorting to the several markets within the said town, &c.” The first streets which were lighted under this act were Cross-parish and New-street—so called because it was the first place in Leeds upon which the word street was imposed. The system of lighting was by means of oil lamps, which were used for 28 years after, when a gas company was incorporated by act of parliament.

When the Wesleyan Conference was held at Leeds, May 6th, 1755, the question was agitated, whether the Methodists were to retain their connexion with the establishment, or finally to secede from it? Upon this

1755.

occasion Mr. Wesley says, "The point on which we desired all the preachers to speak their minds at large, was, *Whether we ought to separate from the Church?* Whatever was advanced on one side or the other, was seriously and calmly considered; and on the third day we were *all* fully agreed in that general conclusion, *That whether it was LAWFUL or not, it was no ways EXPEDIENT.*"—*In a multitude of counsellors there is safety.*

Henry Hanson, Esq., in 1755, left, for the benefit of the poor of Moortown and Chapeltown, £100, the interest to be distributed in bread, the first Sunday in every month. John Gledhill, Esq., in 1806, left to the poor of Chapel-Allerton £100, the interest to be distributed in bread. Wade Brown, Esq., of Ludlow, in Shropshire, left, by will, in 1821, to the minister and chapelwarden for the time being, to the poor of this chapelry, £100, being a share in the Leeds water-works, the interest to be distributed in coals, yearly, at Christmas, by the minister and chapelwarden. The following bequests are for the benefit of the Sunday school:—£100 left by Mrs. Bywater, and in the hands of Wade Brown, Esq.; £10 left by Luke Priestly, Esq., in the hands of his widow; and £50 left by John Gledhill, Esq., and in the hands of James Brown, Esq. Interest is paid upon each donation at the rate of five per cent. per annum; and the amount is applied towards the support of a Sunday school at Chapel-Allerton.——Allerton Hall was upwards of four centuries the property and residence of the Kitchingman family. It was the largest and most ancient mansion in Chapeltown, consisting of about sixty rooms, with gardens and pleasure grounds. It was sold about this year by James Kitchingman, Esq., to Josiah Oates, Esq., merchant of Leeds. The Kitchingman family, for upwards of 400 years, were carried from this hall by torch light, to be interred in the choir of St. Peter's church, in Leeds; at the interment of any of the family, the great chandelier, consisting of 36 branches, was always lighted. In the year 1716, Mr. Robert Kitchingman died, May 7th, aged 100 years. He ordered his body to be buried with torch lights, at Chapel-Allerton; he was interred on the 16th May, when 100 torches were carried; the room where the body was laid was hung with black, and a velvet pall, with escutcheons, was borne by the chief gentry; the pall bearers had all scarves, biscuits, and sack; the whole company had gloves. Fifty pounds was given among the poor, in the chapel yard, on the day of

1755.

his interment. Mary, his wife, died July 28th, 1716, aged 97 years. She was interred precisely in the same way. She was daughter of Alexander Robinson, merchant, of Leeds, and Grace, his wife, sister of the illustrious Harrison. Part of the house where Mr. Rt. Kitchingman lived is yet standing, although the greatest part of it was taken down about the year 1730. When Sir Thomas Fairfax took Leeds, Henry Robinson, vicar of Leeds, and brother of Mary Kitchingman, fled to this house, after having narrowly escaped with his life, in crossing the Aire, below St. Peter's church. He afterwards made his escape to Methley Hall. Tradition says, that king Charles I. was concealed at this house before he went to Leeds. Mr. Harrison, the benefactor, spent the summer of 1645 here, when the plague raged in Leeds.——The estate of the Sunderlands, in Chapel-Allerton, was left by Samuel Sunderland, Esq., of Harding Hall, in the year 1676, to his nephew, Robert Parker, Esq., of Marlow Hall, at Brows-holme, who erected and endowed ten alms-houses at Wad-dington, in Craven. The estate was sold in allotments, by John (or Robert) Parker, about the year 1788.

A curious circumstance which occurred in the family of the Sunderlands, is as follows :—

“Samuel Sunderland, Esq., who flourished in the reign of Charles I. and in the Commonwealth, resided at Arthing Hall, not far from Bingley. He was one of the richest men of his age, and had accumulated an immense quantity of gold coin, which he preserved in bags placed on two shelves in a private part of his house. Two individuals who resided at Collingham, and who were in circumstances above want, though not above temptation, determined to rob Mr. Sunderland of the whole, or at any rate of a considerable quantity, of his gold; and in order to prevent the chance of successful pursuit, they persuaded a blacksmith at Collingham to put shoes on their horses' feet backwards way. They arrived at Arthing Hall according to their purpose; took away as much gold in bags as they could carry off, and notwithstanding the communication of an alarm to the family before they left the house, succeeded in accomplishing their retreat. The weight of the gold they took away was too heavy for their jaded horses, and they were compelled to leave part of it on Blackmoor, where it was afterwards found by some persons of Chapeltown. It so happened, that the robbers had taken a dog with them on their expedition, and this animal, in the hurry of their retreat, they left behind them, fastened up in the place from which they had taken the gold. The friends and neighbours of Mr. Sunderland, who had determined upon pursuit, immediately saw in this dog the means of detecting the offenders. Having broken one of its legs, to prevent its running too fast for their horses, they turned it loose; it proceeded, notwithstanding its excruciating pain, to Collingham, and went directly to the house of its owners. The

1755.-1756.

pursuers arrived, burst open the door, and found the thieves in the very act of counting the money. They were sent to York, tried, condemned to die, and their own apprentice was compelled to act the part of their executioner. This young man, though innocent of any capital participation in the robbery, was so horror-struck by the deed he had been compelled to perform, that he criminated himself, and followed the fate of his masters.

Assize of Bread established in Leeds, May 27th, by John Brooke, Esq., mayor, when the penny *horse* loaf weighed 2lbs. 1oz. 11dr., and the threepenny *maslin* loaf 4lbs. 5oz. 8dr. In this and the previous year a distemper very fatal to cattle raged to an alarming extent, in and about Leeds.

A special sessions ordered the inhabitants of Briggate, in Leeds, to repair the pavement fronting their respective houses, shops, &c.——At a court held in Leeds, on the 10th of October, 1755, it was agreed "That the town clerk do dine as usual with the mayor."

1756. Richard Wilson, Esq., sold part of "the Parks" to the clothiers for £400.——A public brewhouse was built this year, in Meadow-lane, wherein was brewed about 50 quarters of malt weekly.——In May, in this year, in the false loft of an ancient house, used as a chapel, at the bottom of Northgate, in Wakefield, a number of statues were found by a workman. They were admirably executed, in various metals, as well as in wood and alabaster, each adorned with appropriate emblems, and are supposed to have been conveyed from Sandal castle, and the chapel on Wakefield bridge, by the religious, in the reign of Henry VIII. They represented Moses and Aaron, kings David and Solomon, Christ, the twelve Apostles with their respective emblems, St. Paul, St. John the Baptist, and the three magi, Jasper, Melchior, Balthazar; St. Anne, mother of the virgin Mary, teaching her to read; St. William, archbishop of York, with his pastoral staff and mitre, and a monk at his feet praying; a figure with a mitre; a fine representation of of two saints suffering martyrdom, in *Alto Relievo*, in alabaster; St. John the Evangelist was represented in the cauldron surrounded by St. Polycarp, St. Ignatius, the principal Roman magistrates, and the executioners; and another group consisted of a saint lying on a board, whilst his intestines are twisted gradually out, by a spit turned round by two lictors.——Haworth church, in Bradford parish, rebuilt. There appears to have been a church here so early as A.D. 600.——Farneley hall was built in the reign of Elizabeth, by Sir Thomas Danby, and was a "stately fabric, of its architecture and age. Upon the front was

1756.-1757.

this inscription: "Builded in the year of our Lord 1586, and in the reign of the Queen 28, by Sir Thomas Danby, knight." It was pulled down in 1756, the materials were sold, and a very inferior mansion was erected on its site. It is not known when the ancient park was destroyed. Farneley may be regarded as the last place in the parish of Leeds which continued to be the abode of aristocracy, and Dr. Whitaker says, "It is owing unquestionably to the aristocratical genius of the place, that in the neighbourhood of a population rapidly increasing, where every rood of land when leased was sure of a tenant, little less than four hundred acres of native wood, such as in Domesday is described as *Silva Pascua*, should have been permitted to remain to the present day." Farneley wood has, within the last few years been cut down.

1757. The new regulations for levying the militia produced such a spirit of insubordination in Yorkshire, that a vast body of farmers, artizans, and labourers, from upwards of thirty parishes, assembled at York and demolished two houses, without Mouk bar, in one of which the deputy-lieutenants were expected to assemble to receive the constable's returns.——By deed, dated July 7th, 1757, it was declared that the inhabitants of Garforth had agreed to erect a school-house in the town of Garforth, on the promise of Sir Edward Gascoigne, lord of the manor, to settle upon and annex to the school as much of the common or waste lands of Garforth, as would produce the annual value of fifty shillings. Five acres were consequently given upon a lease of ninety-nine years, at the rent of one shilling. In 1774 arrangements were made for the erection of a house for the master.——*David Hartley, M.A.*, died 29th September, 1757, aged 53 years. This well known writer was born at Illingworth, near Halifax. His father was curate there, and married May 25th, 1707, a daughter of the Rev. Mr. Edward Wilkinson, his predecessor. This curacy, Mr. Hartley afterwards resigned for the chapel of Armley, in the parish of Leeds, where he died, and left behind him eight children. His son David was brought up by one Mrs. Brooksbank, near Halifax, and received his academical education at Jesus college, Cambridge, of which he was fellow. He first began to practice physic at Newark, in Nottinghamshire, from whence he removed to St. Edmund's Bury, in Suffolk. After this, he settled for some time in London, and lastly, went to live at Bath, where he died. He acquired great reputation for his medical and mathematical writings.

1757.-1758.

Mr. Wesley, in his journal, mentions Huddersfield, under the date June 9th, 1757, as follows:—"I rode over the mountains to Huddersfield. A wilder people I never saw in England: the men, women, and children, filled the street as we rode along, and appeared just ready to devour us. They were, however, tolerably quiet while I preached; only a few pieces of dirt were thrown; and the bellman came in the middle of the sermon, but was stopped by a gentleman of the town. I had almost done, when they began to ring the bells; so that it did us small disservice. How intolerable a thing is the Gospel of Christ to them who are resolved to serve the Devil." And again, in 1759, he says, "I preached near Huddersfield, to the wildest congregation I have seen in Yorkshire; yet they were restrained by an unseen hand, and I believe some felt the sharpness of His word."——John Firth, of Sowerby, had seven sons and daughters living and well, though the eldest was 87 years old, and the youngest 69.

1758. A very handsome chapel was erected at Horsforth on the site of the ancient edifice, under the auspices of the Stanhope family.——The coloured or mixed Cloth Hall in Wellington-street, Leeds, was built this year by subscription. The department principally used for the sale of ladies' cloth in an undyed state, was added in 1810. The building is of brick, of a quadrangular form, enclosing an open area of considerable extent. It is 380 feet long and 200 broad, and contains 1,780 freehold stalls, divided into six compartments, which are appropriately called streets. Each street, or avenue, contains two rows of stalls, and each stand measures 22 inches in front, having affixed thereon the name of the clothier to whom it belongs. The octagonal building near the entrance, is called "The Rotunda," and is used by the trustees of the hall. It is now greatly improved at the entrance by the removal of part of the wall, and the erection of iron gates and palisading. The opening of the hall is indicated by the ringing of a bell, at half-past nine o'clock, after which operations commence. Bargains are made with great quickness. The buyers pace up and down the avenues, look at the stalls as they pass, listen to the invitations of the sellers, examine the specimens offered, and make a short contest about price, the chaffering being speedily brought to a close either by one party or the other. All the sellers know the buyers; and the discussions about olives, or browns, or pilots; about 6-quarters or 8-quarters; about English or Foreign; about high quality and low



1758.-1759.

quality, are heard on every side. The hall is kept open one hour and a quarter, and a bell announces the approaching close of the market, and the ringing of another soon after terminates the business of the day. In the short time allotted, very extensive transactions take place, amounting from £20,000 to £30,000. The merchants are fined 5s. for remaining after the ringing of the last bell.

The Leeds corporation commenced an action-at-law against William Denison, Esquire, one of the aldermen of the borough, for refusing to take upon himself the office of mayor, to which he had been elected no less than four times, namely, in 1754, 1755, 1757, and 1758. The cause was afterwards compromised by Mr. Denison engaging to accept office, on condition that the duties thereof might be discharged by his brother. Mr. Denison paid the corporation as costs in the action, £12 17d. 3d.

1759. Sir George Savile was returned for Yorkshire in the place of Sir Conyers D'Arcy, deceased.——Mr. Joseph Midgley, of Leeds, clothier, who died this year, left the interest of £800 to be paid quarterly to the poor of Harrison's hospital, in Leeds.——It appears from Mr. Wesley's journal, that the parish of Halifax was agitated with an earthquake. It occurs under the date of May 18th, 1759. "I rode in the afternoon from Halifax, over the huge, but extremely pleasant and fruitful mountains, to Heptonstall. A large congregation was waiting for us, not only on the ground, but on the side and tops of the neighbouring houses; but no scoffer or trifler was seen among them. It rained in the adjoining valley, all or most of the time that I was preaching; but it was fair with us on the top of the mountain. What an emblem of God's taking up his people into a place of safety, while the storm falls on all below! Here I was informed of the earthquake the day before. On Tuesday, May the 17th, many persons, in several parts, within five or six miles. heard a strange noise under the ground, which some compared to thunder, others to the rumbling of carts: quickly after, they felt the earth rock under them and wave to and fro: many, who were within doors, heard their pewter and glass clatter; many in the fields felt the ground shake under their feet; and all agreed as to the time, though they knew nothing of each other's account. Thursday, the 19th, I preached at Ewood, about seven, not intending to preach again till the evening; but Mr. Grimshaw begged I would give them one sermon at Gawksham; after which we climbed up the enormous mountain, I think

1759 -1760.

equal to any I saw in Germany, on the brow of which we were saluted by a severe shower, which a high wind drove full in our faces, almost till we came to Haslenden. Here I learned, that the earthquake observed near Heptonstall, had been sensibly felt by very many persons from Bingley, three miles eastward of Keighley, to the neighbourhood of Preston. It was everywhere preceded by a hoarse rumbling, about three o'clock; so that in a few minutes it had run from east to west, between fifty and sixty miles."

1760. The foundation stone of Harewood house was laid by Henry Lascelles, Esq. on the 23rd of March this year. The length of the building is 250 feet, and the width 89 feet, displaying all the richness of Corinthian architecture. It is said to have cost upwards of £100,000. It stands on an elevated position, in a park of great beauty and extent, consisting of 1,800 acres. The taste displayed in the pleasure grounds, gardens, and lake, corresponds with the magnificence of the house. They comprise nearly 150 acres. The terrace erected by the late earl will vie with the best of the kind in the country. The interior is very elegant and costly. *The entrance hall* is supported at the sides by sixteen Doric columns and pilasters, and the walls are enriched with basso relievos by Rose. In six niches are placed busts of various members of the family. From the centre of the ceiling is suspended a beautiful lamp. The old ivy-mantled castle adds greatly to the beauty of the scenery of Harewood.——*Mr. Benjamin Wilson*, an eminent painter, flourished about this time. He was a native of Leeds, and particularly distinguished for his etchings in imitation of Rembrandt, which are said to have completely deceived the connoisseurs of that day. The celebrated painting of the raising of Jairus's daughter, valued at £500, is an honourable proof both of his abilities as an artist, and of his generosity. It is now in the Leeds general infirmary.——Two stone coffins were dug up at Black-hill, in the parish of Harewood, containing human bones. Foundations of buildings, urns, and coins, have been frequently found at the same place.

George III. succeeded his grandfather George II., Oct. 26th, 1760, and died Jan. 29th, 1820, thus reigning nearly sixty years, which is the longest reign in our history.

In this year the act of parliament of the 33rd Geo. II., cap. 54, was passed, entitled "An act for raising money for finishing and completing the repairs of *Leeds* bridge, in the county of York; and for the purchasing and taking

1760-1763.

down the houses and buildings which straiten and obstruct the passage to and over the said bridge." The act authorized the erection of "a stone arch over that part of the mill stream or goit passing under one arch of Leeds bridge aforesaid, which runs between master Green's house and the old school," the latter being the chantry of St. Mary, previously mentioned in this work.

1761. On the 31st of August, the city of York was visited by the king of Denmark, being attended by many of his nobles and a numerous retinue. The following day, after visiting the cathedral and the assembly rooms, he departed for London, by way of Leeds and Manchester.

Sir George Savile, and Edwin Lascelles, Esqrs. were returned as members for Yorkshire without opposition. They were also returned at the elections of 1768, and 1774 without opposition.

1762. June 19th. Several moors in this county caught fire, to the great consternation and loss of the inhabitants in the respective neighbourhoods.——Dec. 1st. A violent hurricane in York raged from nine o'clock at night till eight o'clock on the following night; blowing down the weather cock and part of the battlement at the west end of the minster, and very seriously damaging numerous houses.

1763. August 16th was born Frederick, second son of George, III., and eleventh duke of York he was advanced to the dignity of the duke of York and Albany, in Great Britain, earl of Ulster, in Ireland. His royal highness was also many years commander-in-chief of all the land forces of the united kingdom, colonel of the first regiment of foot guards, colonel-in-chief of the 60th regiment of infantry. He was the soldiers' friend, by whom he was venerated when living, and by whom his memory is still cherished with enthusiasm. He died January 5th, 1827, and was buried in the royal vault at Windsor, on the 20th of the same month.——Dec. 26th. Owing to a sudden thaw and heavy rain after a great fall of snow, the river Aire rose to such a height at Leeds that it forced down its banks at the head of the high dam, where it formed a new channel, and swept away an acre of soil out of School-close, besides washing down several large trees at the Parks, close to the banks of the river. The damage was estimated at £1000.——The church at Sowerby is a neat edifice, and was built in this year: it is dedicated to St. Peter, and valued in the parliamentary returns at £28. It is in the patronage of the vicar

1763.-1765.

of Halifax. The chapel has a chancel, in which is a statue of Archbishop Tiliotson, erected in compliance with the will of his surviving grand-niece, between sixty and seventy years ago. This celebrated person was born at Haugh-End, in October, 1630.

1764. The Rev. Samuel Brooke, A.M., rector of Gamston, Notts, was this year elected master of the Leeds grammar school: died September 8th, 1778. He was distinguished for the point and neatness of his epigrams in Latin and English.——June 25th, an excellent dinner was given at the Green Dragon, Harrogate, by 21 of the neighbouring gentry, to Mr. and Mrs. Liddal, on their taking the “FLITCH OF BACON OATS,” inserted in the 607th number of the Spectator, and appointed to be taken by such happy couples as wish to be rewarded for having lived one year and a day (or more) in wedlock, without strife, or wishing the “silken cord” untied.——October 2nd. An advertisement bearing this date, says, “Safe and expeditious travelling with machines on steel springs in four days to London, from the Old King’s Arms, in Leeds, every Monday and Wednesday.”

In this year wigs were fast becoming unfashionable, and the wig-makers of London petitioned Geo. III. to compel gentlemen to wear wigs by law, for the benefit of their trade.

1765. Mrs. Barbara Chantrill bequeathed the interest of £400 to the poor widows of Mrs. Potter’s alms houses, in Camp-road, Leeds.——The father of Richard Wilson, Esq. recorder, built a large house on a part of the site of Leeds castle (Scarborough’s hotel).——On the 27th of March was held the first fortnight sheep and cattle fair at Wakefield, and on the 2nd of April following, the inhabitants of Adwalton advertised it as illegal, and that they should bring actions at law “against all persons by whom such intended meetings at Wakefield shall be held,” as the same would be highly prejudicial to the neighbouring fairs and markets at Adwalton, which are held by virtue of a “Royal Charter.” On the 8th of September, died Sir Thomas Dennison, the son of a clothier, at North-town-end, Leeds, who by his merit as a lawyer was elevated to a seat in the king’s bench.——The isle of Man was annexed to the crown of England, having been purchased from the duke of Athol.——The following curious notices of business to be attended to in each year, occur in a memorandum book formerly belonging to Mr. Thomas Barstow, the younger, town clerk of the borough of Leeds, this year:—

1765.-1767.

"27 Sept. To give notice of a court of mayor, ald'men, and assistants, to choose a new mayor, (and assists. if wanting,) on the 29th, at 3 o'clock in the afternoon; afterwards the old mayor, the mayor elect, and the rest of the court go and drink a glass. The old mayor pays a guinea, the mayor elect 10s. 6d., the aldermen 2s. a piece, and the assistants 1s. each. What is spent above is paid by the treasurer out of the corporation stock.

Sunday after the last mentioned day, the new mayor goes to church with the old mayor, the former in a black and the latter in a scarlet gown, and dine together at the old mayor's.

The first Sunday after the new mayor is sworn in, is a Gown day.

The first whole week after Michaelmas, the quarter sessions, dine with the old mayor, go to court after dinner to swear the new mayor. Sup with the new mayor. Waites playing before them from court. New mayor gives the old church ringers 10s., St. John's 5s., and Trinity 1s.

1766. Huddersfield Cloth Hall, or Piece Hall, was erected this year. This edifice was built by Sir John Ramsden, and was enlarged by his son in 1780. It is an extensive circular edifice, two stories high, divided on one side into separate compartments or shops, and on the other into open stalls for the accommodation of country manufacturers of woollen cloths. There are two central avenues of stalls for the same purpose, and about six hundred manufacturers now attend here every market day. The doors are opened early in the morning of the market day; they are closed at half-past twelve o'clock at noon; and they are again opened at half-past three for the removal of cloth, &c. A cupola and bell are placed above the entrance for the purpose of regulating the time allowed for doing business.—Edward, duke of York, this year visited the earl of Mexbro'.

1767. *Ann Sowerby* was burnt at York for murdering her husband.—The walls of the venerable church of Dewsbury gave way, and were rebuilt with a laudable regard to the preservation of the works of antiquity.—Thomas Hudson, a native of Leeds, who was reduced from affluence to beggary by the "South Sea Bubble," died this year at a very advanced age. In the early part of his life he was clerk in a government office, and by the death of an aunt obtained a large fortune, which he boldly ventured in the South Sea Scheme, after the failure of which, he left his country seat in Staffordshire, where he had just buried an affectionate wife, and became a wandering lunatic mendicant. He was frequently seen perambulating the fields about Chelsea, bare-footed, wrapped in a rug, and sup-

1767.-1768.

ported by a crutch, under the name of "Tom of ten thousand," as he used to call himself.

Between the years 1767 and 1787 the average cost of manufacturing a pack of long wool into yarn was as follows:—1  $\frac{1}{4}$  pack of Lincoln or Kent wool would cost £7. 10s. The washing and combing would cost £2. 10s.; the spinning, £9.; the carrying out, £2.; the average Norwich profit would be £3.; making a total of £20.

About the same time, a wool-comber with three thousand pounds capital, would make four hundred and sixteen packs in one year, or twelve hundred pounds profit. His return would be eight thousand seven hundred and thirty-six pounds. The state of things in this manufacture, before machinery was introduced to any extent, may be ascertained from the fact that in 1733, a pack of long wool made into fine stuffs, would employ one hundred and fifty-eight persons a week, who earned thirty-two pounds twelve shillings. In 1788 the spinners were old men, women, and children of both sexes; and at that time in sixteen counties, their average earnings was sixpence farthing per day.

1768. The first stone of the Leeds General Infirmary was laid this year. It is a spacious but plain building of red brick, with stone facings. It was originally of two stories. The two large wings have been added at different times, and the body of the building raised to the same elevation, besides other improvements; the whole forming three sides of a quadrangle. The length of the building is 150 feet, the width 38; the court is 186 feet by 30 feet; the back court, with the offices and gardens, 186 feet by 120 feet. In 1817, R. F. Wilson, Esq., of Ingmanthorp; munificently presented the trustees with a plot of land on the south front, consisting of 4,000 square yards, valued at £1,500, which extends from the ground on the south front to Wellington-road. The land is tastefully laid out as a garden and pleasure ground, and is enclosed by a substantial wall, surmounted with iron palisades, and forms an ornament to the western part of the town.

It contains 143 beds, in part devoted to surgical, and in part to medical cases. Upwards of 2,000 *in* and 3,000 *out*-patients receive the benefit of this institution yearly: 247,911 patients have been treated within its walls since the opening. As a surgical school it is unsurpassed by any hospital in the kingdom.

It is supported by annual subscriptions, benefactions, legacies, and public collections, chiefly from the town.

1768.

The subscriptions and collections amount to about £2,500 per annum: the dividends on £3,000 three per cent consols, purchased with the amount of various bequests, are also available for the general expenditure, the annual amount of which is something approaching £5,000.

The Leeds Library was commenced under the recommendation of Dr. Priestley, and was then on the ground-floor of the Rotation-Office, in Kirkgate. The present building, erected at a cost of £5,000, is situated in Commercial-street; the basement story is rusticated, and is at present occupied as shops, which produce a considerable rental. The front consists entirely of stone, and is divided above the rusticated base into five compartments by Ionic pillars, with windows of the same order in each division, the whole finishing in a bold cornice and entablature. The library is approached by a staircase at the west end; the books, consisting of 39,000 volumes are systematically arranged on the upper floor, in one principal and three smaller rooms, the dimensions of which are, the large room, 180 feet by 90; 1st. smaller, 57 by 54; 2nd. smaller same size; 3rd. smaller, 51 by 42; which together, gives 534 feet of available wall space for displaying the books. The library consists of a well-selected collection of books, many of which are extremely valuable, comprising the best editions of the standard authors, both English and foreign, in every branch of literature; also a rare collection of quarto tracts relating to the civil wars. It is acknowledged to be one of the most spacious and beautiful libraries in the north of England. Dr. Whittaker says of it, "a splendid apartment which would not disgrace a college." The number of subscribers is limited to 500. Strangers can obtain admission on application to a member.

On the 6th of September, the king of Denmark passed through Leeds with a splendid retinue, and after visiting the Cloth Hall, was sumptuously entertained by the corporation.——On October 7th, the Rev. Richard Fawcett, A.M., was chosen incumbent of St. John's, in Leeds. He held the living fifteen years. By a suit in chancery against the trustees of that church he increased the yearly value of the benefice to six times its former amount. He was a very acute man, and master of a neat clear controversial style.——This year Pontefract was distracted by two violent parties, viz, lord Galloway's and Sir Rowland Winn's, who each elected a mayor, and kept the town some time in great confusion, till one of the two gave up the mace.——*Bridge Frodsham*, the "York



1768.-1769.

Roscus," breathed his last on the 26th of October, 1768, in the city of York, where he had so long been the idol of the stage, and received such unqualified flattery, that he fancied himself equal in many tragic parts to the great Garrick, and would not have exchanged the applause of a York for that of a London audience. He was only once in the metropolis, and then only for a few days, during which he visited Garrick, whom, as well as Mrs. Garrick, he surprised and baffled with his freedom and self-sufficient airs, saying that he was a Roscius in his own quarters, and neither wanted nor wished for an engagement in London, but came there merely to see a few plays, and visit a brother genius.—In July, this year, a great flood carried away three bridges, and did much damage at Leeds and Bradford, where the cellars near the river were inundated, and at the latter place, great quantities of cloth, wool, &c., were carried away by the stream, into which a man and a boy fell with the bridge on which they were standing.—Near the walls of the city of York, some labourers discovered a Roman sepulchre, formed of tiles 20 inches long, 15½ broad, and 3 inches thick, with prominent edges, and a cover resembling the roof of a house, formed with semicircular tiles of a small diameter, fitting very close. Each end of the dormitory was closed with a tile like those of the sides; on each of which were these letters and figures, "Leg. IX. HIS." In the cavity were found the remains of a human body, which seemed to have been burnt, particularly part of a thigh bone, and the lower jaw, which was broken, but contained all its teeth. There was also an urn, of a blueish grey colour, containing ashes, covered with a slate. Near to this was found another earthen vessel of red clay, with a handle to it; there were likewise a few coins and a medal; one of the coins was a Domitan, well preserved, having on the reverse, "Fidei Publicæ."

1769. October. Between Gillygate and the walls of the city of York, was found by some workmen, a Roman silver coin. On one side was a head in profile, and this inscription, "CAPIT CXIII." On the reverse two oxen, with the yoke on their necks, but no plough; above them was inscribed "CXIII."; and under their feet "C. MARC."

Major Bradley, of Leeds, advertised his wife having left him for the 14th time!!—Two coaches carried passengers from "Leeds to London in two days and a half," for £1. 11s. 6d. inside, or £1. 1s. outside.—A man at Leeds was indicted for paying a bad "six and thirty," and

1769-1770.

many persons in Halifax and other places were apprehended for clipping and sweating the 36s., 18s., and 6s. 9d., and other gold pieces, and for counterfeiting the Portuguese coin then current in England.——At the York Spring assizes, about forty coiners and clippers were tried, but only two were executed, viz.: James Oldfield, of Warley, and David Hartly, of Erringden. The latter was called "*King David*," by his illicit fraternity, who had another chief distinguished with the title of "*Duke of Edinburgh*." The favourite haunt of this desperate gang, was the wild and mountainous parish of Halifax, of which many of them were natives. After David their "king" had been apprehended in the town of Halifax, some of the gang murdered Mr. Deighton, a supervisor, within one hundred yards of his own house, for which crime, Robert Thomas was executed at York on the 6th of August, 1774, and gibbeted on the Beacon-hill, with his right hand pointing to the scene of the murder. Matthew Normanton also suffered death as an accomplice in the bloody deed.

Meetings were held at various times in Leeds, Bradford, and Halifax, to consult on the best means to be used for suppressing this numerous gang of Yorkshire coiners, whose frauds and violence had increased to a very alarming extent. The widow of Mr. Deighton, being recommended by the Yorkshire gentry as an object of royal bounty, received from his majesty a gift of £200, and an annuity of £50 for life.——On the third of February, this year, there were at Leeds and Bradford grand septennial processions of the wool-combers in honour of their patron bishop Blaise.——In August, the Rev. John Wesley held at Leeds a kind of "Visitation," which he called a Conference, a name by which the yearly synods of his followers have since been distinguished.

At the village of Thornton, in the parish of Bradford, a most eccentric character, George Kirton, Esq., of Oxnop Hall, died in 1769, aged one hundred and twenty-five. He was a most remarkable fox-hunter, following the chase on horseback till he was eighty years of age; from that period to one hundred years, he regularly attended the unkennelling the fox in his single chair.

1770. The construction of the Leeds and Liverpool canal was commenced this year, and was not completed to Liverpool till 1816. The whole length of the canal is 129 miles. In its course it passes Ormskirk, Wigan, Blackburn, Burnley, and Colne, in Lancashire, and Skipton, Keighley, Bingley, and Bradford to Leeds in Yorkshire.

1770.

It joins the Aire at Leeds, thus opening a direct line of navigation between Hull and Liverpool, and the principal towns in the kingdom. It communicates with the Ribble by the Douglas navigation, and a branch from Wigan to Leigh connects it with the Bridgewater canal. The Aire and Calder Canal has its junction with the Leeds and Liverpool, at Leeds. It extends to Weeland, from thence to the Ouse, near Goole; and from Haddlesey to the same river at Selby.——During the first ten years of the reign of George III., some discoveries and inventions were made, by which the prosperity of the whole empire received a new impulse. By the improvements effected in the steam-engine by Mr. James Watt, a superior mechanic power was obtained for the driving of machinery and other purposes. Mr. James Hargreaves, of Blackburn, invented the *spinning-jenny*, a contrivance for abridging the use of hand labour in the cotton manufacture. Upon this an improvement was afterwards made by Mr. Richard Arkwright, who invented what was called the *spinning-frame*, by which a vast number of threads of the utmost fineness were spun with very little aid from hand labour. A third invention called the *mule jenny*, by Mr. Crompton, of Bolton, came into use some years later; and finally the *power-loom* was invented by Dr. Cartwright for superseding hand labour in weaving. Mr. Watt was an artisan in his early days; Mr. Hargreaves was a carpenter; and Mr. Arkwright a dresser of hair. The last, who was knighted by George III., left at his death nearly a million sterling, realised by the profit of his invention.——On the banks of the Ouse, about a mile and a half from York, in a piece of ground opened for a gravel pit, were discovered several fragments of Roman earthenware, such as pateras, urns, and some very large vessels, ornamented with vine leaves, and one inscribed “Ophilas”; also part of a urn of crystal, an iron flesh fork, and a piece of brass. A stratum of oyster shells appeared to have been laid from two five feet below the surface of the ground, and above them was a rich black earth, like soot mixed with oil, amongst which were pieces of burnt wood; over these were scattered great numbers of heads of beasts, and in several others were bones mixed with earth, and fragments of earthen vessels. Not far from these, the earth, about three feet below the surface, was discoloured and greasy, as though it had been soaked with blood.——In digging a drain from the north-east of Davygate to the corner of Lendal, in York, the foundations of three walls were discovered,

1770.-1771.

about seven feet below the ground. They were from nine and a half to eleven and a half feet broad, about three feet distant from each other, and were composed of pebbles strongly cemented; the space between the walls being securely filled with clay.—October 4th, died Mrs. Peckham, the celebrated cook; and, on the 6th, Mary Dobson, alias "*Match Mary*," who kept her coffin, shroud, &c., 17 years in her house previous to her death.

In August, this year, part of the foundation of a temple, of Roman brick work, was found in Friar's garden, in York, about two feet below the surface of the earth, of a semicircular form, the other half being under an adjoining house. Under this fragment was a flat grit stone, three feet long, two feet one inch broad, and seven inches thick, on which was an inscription, and some curious carved work, in fine preservation.—Some Roman foundations were discovered near St. Helen's church, St. Helen's-square, York; the origin of which church can be traced back to the ages of heathen idolatry, when a temple dedicated to Diana was erected here.—Wilks, the popular champion of the people's rights, being liberated from his long imprisonment on the 18th of April, in this year, the event was honoured in Yorkshire with great rejoicings; the towns of Leeds, Wakefield, Bradford, Halifax, &c., being enlivened with ringing of bells, fireworks, illuminations, and other demonstrations of joy. "*Wilks and Liberty*," and "No. 45," were seen in almost every window.

This year died Anthony Herridance, a baker, of Shadwell, supposed to have been the heaviest man then in Europe.—In September, this year, 11,000 freeholders of Yorkshire petitioned his majesty for a dissolution of parliament.—July 3rd, the relict of the Rev. William Whitaker, instead of expending £50 in funeral pomp, gave that sum to the Leeds infirmary, then building.

In September, Sir James Ibbetson, bart., was chosen common councilman of Leeds, being then resident in Kirkgate.

1771. *Cuthbert Shaw*, the son of a shoemaker at Ravensworth, near Richmond, was born in 1738, and died this year; was some time usher to the grammar school at Darlington, where he published his first poem, entitled "*Liberty*." He took to the stage. Wrote a satire, entitled the "*Four Farthing Candles*," with a view to ridicule Coleman, Churchill, Lloyd, and Shirley; and next made Churchill the object of single attack, in a heroic poem, called the "*Race of Mercurius Spur*, with notes by

1771.-1774.

Faustinus Scriblerus." He had the instruction for some time of the son of Philip Dormer Stanhope, the earl of Chesterfield.——This year were opened the Leeds general Infirmary, the Theatre, Hunslet-lane, and the Methodist chapel, in Low-street, St. Peter's-street.

1772. August 8th, four persons were tried at York for murdering a boy who was afflicted with that dreadful malady hydrophobia, but they were acquitted for want of evidence.——Negroes were adjudged to be free whilst in this country.——August 27th, a county meeting was held at the castle of York, when Archbishop Drummond was called to the chair, and proposed that a subscription should be commenced for the erection of an asylum in the city, expressly for *pauper lunatics*, or such as belonged to indigent families: £2,500 was quickly subscribed.

Judges were this year appointed for life, instead of during pleasure.——June 20th, at Leeds, hailstones fell as large as nutmegs, doing immense damage while the storm continued.——This year 210,119 pieces of broad and narrow cloth were sold at Leeds.

1773. June 8th, *ten plays* advertised to be performed by subscription, at the theatre, Leeds. Box tickets, 15s.; p t, 10s., for the course. In May 10th, of the following year, the same plan was resorted to.——June 15th. a self-moving phaeton was advertised to be exhibited at the sign of the Red Bear, (now the Bull and Mouth,) Briggate, Leeds.——February 9th, the Quakers in Leeds subscribed £70 for bread for the poor, an example (says the editor of the *Mercury*) "in these pinching times not unworthy the imitation of the affluent."——In March, the merchants and tradesmen of Leeds agreed, at a public meeting, to take all kinds of Portugal gold, providing it was good, and of sufficient weight.——*Foster Powell*, the celebrated pedestrian, a native of Horsforth, completed his first walk from London to York and back, in 5 days and 18 hours; this task he repeated in 1787, and subsequently, in 1792, in 5 days, 13 hours, 15 minutes, being then in his 58th year.——The first manufactory for cast plate glass, according to the process invented by Abraham The'vart, was established at Prescott, in Lancashire, by a society of gentlemen, to whom a royal charter was granted, under the name of the "British Plate Glass Company."

1774. On Sunday, July 31st, the sails of the windmill belonging to the Leeds pottery fell down with a tremendous crash, which, being looked upon as a judgment for

1774 -1775.

desecrating the Sabbath, the proprietors resolved that the mill should never be allowed to be worked afterwards on the Lord's day.——In this year great distress prevailed amongst the poor of Leeds, when "not less than 6,000 persons were relieved weekly for some time." Inclemency of the weather, dearness of provisions, and bad trade, were assigned as the causes.——A gold coin of Justinian, weighing twenty-one grains, was found at Osmondthorpe, near Leeds, which is supposed to have been the royal residence of some of the kings of Northumbria.——On the 14th of August, Isabella Cryer, died suddenly at Leeds, aged 41: she measured three yards round, and is supposed to have weighed forty stone. She was borne to the grave by ten men.——In this year the Leeds corporation subscribed £100 towards the building of a new White Cloth Hall in the town.

1775. The American war of independence commenced in the summer of this year, occasioned by the colonists having refused to submit to the imposition of taxes by the English government. On the 4th of July, 1776, the American congress took the decisive step of a declaration of their independence, embodying their sentiments in a document remarkable for its pathos and solemnity. France, Spain, and Holland joined their arms with those of America against England; while Russia, Sweden, and Denmark remained an "armed neutrality," decidedly hostile to Britain. So tremendous was the force raised against Britain in 1779, that it required about 300,000 armed men, 300 armed vessels, and twenty millions of money annually, merely to protect herself from her enemies. On the 3rd of September, 1783, treaties of peace were signed between Great Britain, France, Spain, and the United States of America. By these treaties Great Britain acknowledged the independence of the United States, and restored to France and Spain a part of the possessions which had been taken from them.

In this year, a farmer near Bingley, digging in his field, discovered a copper chest, containing about one hundred weight of Roman silver coins, some of the date of Julius Cæsar.——A very high flood occurred in the river Aire on the 21st of October, this year. Water-lane, together with all the other streets and lanes near the Leeds bridge, were rendered impassable to anything but boats. The bridges of Calverley and Swillington, above and below Leeds, were destroyed, and a singular circumstance is related of a hare, which escaped alive on the body of a

1775-1776.

drowned sheep. The height to which the water rose is preserved by a notice at the end of Water-lane, entering from the bridge, thus:—"1775, October 21st, Flood," under which is a line showing that the water rose seven feet above the crown of the paving.

There is a monument in the chancel of the parish church at Halifax, of Dr. Leigh, who distinguished himself in the Bangorian controversy, bearing the following inscription:—"Near this place, in the same vault, are deposited the remains of the REV. GEORGE LEIGH, LL.D. and his two beloved wives, Frances and Elizabeth, to whose joint memory this monument is erected; he was vicar of this parish of Halifax above forty-four years: during which time he interested himself with laudable zeal in the cause of liberty and sincerity, being the last survivor of those worthy men who distinguish'd themselves by their opposition to ecclesiastical tyranny, he defended the rights of mankind in that memorable Hoadlian controversy. The bible he consider'd as the only standard of faith and practice, to the poor and distress'd and public charity's, he was a generous benefactor, by his will order'd bibles to be given for the benefit of the poor. He did honour to his profession as a clergyman and christian. Esteem'd when liveing, in death lamented. He died compos'd on the 6th of Decemb'r, 1775, in the 82d year of his age; his wife Frances died Decemb'r 9th, 1749; Elizabeth, Feb. 8th, 1765."

The population of Leeds was, at this time, 17,117; Manchester, 42,937.——On the 21st of September, Miss Carr, of Swinegate, Leeds, was unfortunately killed by lightning.

Before the act of parliament of this date, country banks issued notes for sums so small as 10s. and 5s. Some banks in Yorkshire even circulated notes of the value of 6d.

The manufactures of England, &c., were greatly facilitated by the inventions of Mr. James Watt, a Glasgow mechanic, who this year obtained a patent for his rotative steam-engine, which is now so generally used in all parts of the kingdom, propelling nearly all kinds of machinery, from the heaviest hammers of the fulling mill and forge to the shuttle of the newly invented power-loom.——Leeds White Cloth Hall, in the Calls, was opened on the 17th of October, this year, and was built on the site of an ancient hospital.

1776. Jan. 11th. William Dennison, Esq. gave thirty loads of corn and four hundred corves of coal to the poor of Kirkgate division.——The following memorandum was written in a bible, now in the possession of a family at



Rishton, near Blackburn:—"Thos. Dixbury, of Rishton, near Blackburn, sold to Messrs. Peel, Yates, and Co., Church bank, two common fine *calico* pieces for £5. 9s. 8d. These were the first pieces ever manufactured in this kingdom."——This year, the market cross, Leeds, was erected to replace a more ancient one.——The report of woollens manufactured in the West-Riding this year, states that the following were produced from Easter, 1775, to Easter, 1776, viz., of narrow cloth, 99,586; and of broad cloth, 99,773 pieces; being an increase of 6,687 pieces above the preceding year.——No fewer than 923 patients were admitted into the Leeds infirmary this year.——Thomas Aikney and Elizabeth Boardingham were executed at York, March 25th, for the murder of the husband of the latter at Flamborough. The body of Aikney was brought to Leeds for dissection.——A new post coach was advertised to go to London in thirty-nine hours from the old King's Arms, Leeds.——The Doncaster St. Leger was established by Colonel St. Leger this year.——Francis Fawkes, a poet, was born in Yorkshire about 1721; and took his master's degree at Cambridge, in 1745; and, on entering into orders, became curate of Bramham, where he wrote "*Bramham Park*," a poem. He obtained the curacy of Croydon in 1754, where he became known to archbishop Herring, who gave him the vicarage of Orpington, with St. Mary Cray, in Kent, which, in 1774, he exchanged for the rectory of Hayes. Published a volume of original poems and translations, and an eclogue on "*partridge shooting*," and other works. Died in 1777.

1777. The County Hall, or Court House, in York castle yard, was built this year.——There is an epitaph as follows, in Birstal church yard:—

"This is to the memory of old Amos,  
Who was when alive for hunting famous;  
But now his chases are all o'er,  
And here he's earth'd of years four score.  
Upon this tomb he's often sat  
And tried to read his epitaph;  
And thou who dost so at this moment  
Shall ere long like him be dormant.

Amos Street, of Birstal, Huntsman to Mr. Fearnley, of Oakwell, who died Oct. 3rd, 1777."

June 9th. The Assembly Rooms, (in Assembly-court), Leeds, was opened with a minuet by lady Effingham and Sir George Savile, bart., on which occasion upwards of two

1777.-1779.

hundred and twenty of the neighbouring nobility and gentry were present.——Sept. 14th. The shock of an earthquake was felt in Leeds and to the westward.——York Lunatic Asylum being nearly completed, apartments were opened on the 20th of September for ten patients, at 8s. per week. Dr. Hunter was appointed physician.

In January, the citizens of York were much exasperated by the appearance of a "*Press Gang*," and on the 26th the lord mayor received a letter bearing the York postmark on it, threatening "that if those men were not removed from the city on or before the 28th, his lordship's own dwelling and the mansion house also should be burned to the ground."

1778. The baptisms, marriages, and funerals at the parish church of Leeds, from January, 1777, to January, 1778, were as follows:—baptisms, 1025; marriages, 360; funerals, 945.——On June 14th, was a total eclipse of the sun.——On December 31st a great storm of wind occurred, by which much damage was done in the town and neighbourhood of Leeds.——The inhabitants of Wakefield empowered the churchwardens to contract with Messrs. Pack and Chapman, of London, to exchange the old bells that were hung in 1739, for a new peal of eight; the tenor to weigh 24 cwt., the rest in proportion.

This year Paul Jones, a bold adventurer, kept all the western coast of the island in continual alarm. He landed at Whitehaven, where he burned the ships in the harbour, and attempted to burn the town. He afterwards landed in Scotland, where he continued his depredations.

On the 20th of September in the following year, a sea fight took place off Flamborough Head, between Paul Jones and a British fleet under the command of Captain Pearson. The battle commenced about half-past seven o'clock in the evening, and raged with great fury for two hours, when Captain Pearson was compelled to surrender. The enemy purchased his victory at a prodigious price, not less than 300 of his men being killed and wounded.

1779. Jan. 27th. On this day the venerable abbey, at Kirkstall, suffered the loss of two sides of its fine tower, and a part of a third, when several little smoking pipes, such as were used in the time of James I. were found embedded in the mortar, whence it is argued that smoking was practised in England before the introduction of American tobacco in 1586.——Parliament granted £5000 to James Berkenhout and Thomas Clarke, of Halton, near Leeds, on condition that they should make known to the

1779.

public their newly-discovered method of dyeing linen and cotton cloth, in scarlet, crimson, and other colours variegated. The secret was attempted to be divulged, but no hues could ever be produced like the specimens, which in all probability were the effect of accident rather than skill, as had been the case eight years before at Barnard castle, where a dyer's boiling kettles were in 1771 suddenly inundated by the overflowing of the Tees, which struck such a beautiful shade upon the cloth then in process, that it sold in London at a greatly advanced price, and orders poured in for more of the same hue, which the poor dyer could never again produce, the genius of the river not deigning to pay him another visit. Mr. Berkenhout was the descendant of a Dutch merchant, who settled at Leeds.

A descendant of his partner, Mr. Peter Clarke, occupied the White Bridge Mill, at Halton, until 1857, where he manufactured bunting for ship's colours, and where the first power-loom in England was at work long before the public became acquainted with the steam power-loom of the present day. The mill is now converted into two dwellings, and a water-wheel is (1859) being erected near the reservoir, to supply Halton, Temple-Newsam, and Whitkirk with water.

About this time, a man passing by Hathershelf Scout, observed his dog enter a narrow aperture: supposing him to have caught the scent of a fox, he pursued and found the opening gradually expand into a small cave, where he found, not a fox but a savage, who barred all further approach by a pistol. The astonished discoverer withdrew, but quickly returned with some assistants, one of whom boldly entered, and secured the inhabitant of the cave. The reason for his choice of this unknown retirement now appeared. It was a repository of stolen goods; among which were two surplices taken from the parish church of Rochdale, with the scarlet hood of a doctor in divinity. The plate stolen at the same time had been previously discovered in another place. The cave was not large enough for the reception of living oxen, but it was copiously stored with slaughtered animal food, properly cured for a long concealment. The ruffian thus extricated from his lurking place was transported for life.

Destructive riots took place in London, when at least 50,000 persons from one meeting took their route over London bridge, bearing flags inscribed "No Popery," headed by lord George Gordon. They burnt the furniture, ornaments, and altars of two Roman Catholic chapels, set

1779.

fire to the house of the keeper of Newgate, also to the prison, which was soon entered and destroyed, and the prisoners were liberated. The king's Bench prison and the new Bridewell, together with some adjoining houses were set on fire and nearly consumed. Attempts were twice made on the bank of England on the same day. The rioters were repulsed after many of them had fallen by the fire of the military. The total of killed and wounded was 285. Several of the prisoners were afterwards executed. Lord George Gordon was tried for high treason, but acquitted.

This year was discovered near Morton, in the parish of Bingley, one of the most valuable deposits of *Roman Coin* ever seen in Britain. It consisted of a very large quantity of Denarii in excellent preservation, for the most part of *Septimus Severus*, *Julia Domna*, *Caracalla*, and *Geta*, all contained in the remains of a brass chest, which had probably been the military chest of a Roman legion, and buried there upon some sudden alarm.—In this year, a few persons at Leeds, of the Baptist denomination, hired a part of the Old Assembly Rooms; and Mr., afterwards Dr. Fawcett and the Rev. J. Parker, of Barnoldswick, preached on the occasion of its being opened for public worship. This may be considered as the commencement of the Baptist interest in Leeds. Two years afterwards the chapel, commonly called the Stone chapel, was opened. The present edifice in South-parade was built in 1826.

"In the year 1779, a countryman," says Whitaker, "digging peat on Mixenden moor, struck his spade through a black polished stone, resembling a hone or whet-stone; adjoining to this stone was a most beautiful brass celt, in excellent preservation. These remains were accompanied by four arrow heads of black flint; by a light battle-axe head of a beautiful green pebble; and lastly, by a hollow gouge, or scoop, of hard grey stone, evidently intended for the excavation of canoes and other wooden vessels. The last is unique, no implement for this purpose having ever been discovered before. Together they seem to have formed the imperishable part of the arms of a British soldier, who, by some other means than in battle, had perished, perhaps two thousand years ago, amongst these wastes, where all remains of the body, together with the handles of the weapons, had long been decomposed, and mixed with the common earth."

*James Cook*, a celebrated English navigator, was born on the 27th of October, 1728, at Marton, in Yorkshire.

1779.

His father was an agricultural labourer, or farm servant. His mother's christian name was Grace; and he was one of nine children. Before Cook was thirteen years old, he was apprenticed to a haberdasher at Staiths, near Whitby, but the daily sight of vessels and the conversation of seamen, so filled his mind with a desire to become a sailor, that he obtained his discharge from the shop and bound himself for seven years to John and Henry Walker, of Whitby, who were extensively engaged in the coal trade. After the expiration of his marine apprenticeship, he continued to serve as a common sailor in the coasting trade. During all this period, he was very assiduous in the study of his profession, having, without a master, acquired such a knowledge of mathematics and astronomy, as to enable him subsequently to make three voyages round the globe. In 1768 Cook was recommended to government as a fit person to undertake an expedition to the South Sea. He was appointed to command the expedition with the rank of a lieutenant in the royal navy, his commission bearing date the 25th of May, 1768. In this *first* voyage he was accompanied by Mr. (afterwards Sir Joseph) Banks and Dr. Solander, as naturalists and students of life and manners, and by Mr. Green, the astronomer. The object of the expedition was to observe at Otaheite the passage of Venus over the Sun's disk. In this voyage he recognised the coasts of New Zealand, and discovered the strait which divides New Zealand into two islands.—(Cook's strait) In the *second* voyage which he made in 1772, and which lasted three years, he had for his task to verify the existence of Australian lands. Having advanced as far as 71 deg. of south latitude, he satisfied himself that there existed no land of any great extent in these regions. In his course he discovered New Caledonia. In 1776 he undertook a *third* voyage in order to ascertain if there existed a communication between Europe and Asia, by the north of America. He made the circuit of the new world, gained the north-west of America, and attempted to pass into Hudson's bay through Bering's straits; but was compelled to give up the undertaking in consequence of the advanced season. Cook steered southward with a design of wintering among the Sandwich islands, and returning to Kamschatka the following spring. It was on the 30th of November, 1778, that he discovered the fatal Owhyhee. Several weeks elapsed in sailing round and

1779.-1781.

examining its coasts. On the 17th January, 1779, he anchored in Karakatooa bay, where occurred the quarrel in which he perished. A chieftain of rank was shot by the crew of an English boat, and in revenge, the captain was attacked on all sides. His men strove in vain to assist him, but they were overpowered by numbers; he was stabbed in the back and fell. His life is his character and panegyric: it ceased abruptly, but it will never be forgotten.—Jan. 16th. Admiral Sir George Rodney took twenty-two sail of Spanish ships, defeating their fleet, near Cape St. Vincent, and on the 12th of April, 1782, obtained a signal victory over the French fleet.—In December, this year, a press gang commenced operations in Leeds, and seized a cropper named John Baldwin. He was so affected by the occurrence that he afterwards hanged himself.

1780. Leeds and the neighbouring towns were illuminated on the taking of Charlestown, June 19th.—On Wednesday, Sep. 27th, Sir George Savile and Henry Duncombe, Esq., were returned members for the county of York without opposition.—A slight shock of an earthquake was felt in Leeds, Dec. 9th.

*John Fothergill*, a physician, died this year, and was born at Carr-end, in Yorkshire, in 1712. His parents were quakers, and he was put apprentice to an apothecary of that denomination at Bradford. He studied two years under Sir Edward Wilmot, at St. Thomas's hospital; after which he visited the continent, returned, and then settled in London, where he became a licentiate of the college. He was at Edinburgh, where he took his doctor's degree. Became a member of the Royal Antiquarian Society. He acquired a large fortune, of which he made good use.

1781. The *York Emanuel* established about this time, for the benefit of ministers, either members of the Church of England or Dissenters, and the wives, widows, and children of ministers, in any part of the kingdom. The capital of this institution at the period of the commissioner's survey, amounted to £12,400 three per cent. consols.—The following observations on the view from Bramham moor, were made by John Watson, Esq., of Malton, in this year:—"Upon the middle of this moor, a man may see for ten miles around him; within those ten miles there is as much free-stone as would build ten cities, each as large as York; within those ten miles there is as much good oak timber as would build those ten cities; there is as much limestone and coal to burn it into lime as

1781.-1782.

the building of those ten cities would require; there is also as much clay and sand and coals to burn them into bricks and tiles as would build those ten cities; within those ten miles there are two iron forges, sufficient for those ten cities, and 10,000 fadders to spare; within those ten miles there is a good coal seam sufficient to furnish those ten cities with firing for 10,000 years; within those ten miles there are three navigable rivers, from any of which a man may take shipping, and sail to any part of the world; within those ten miles there are seventy gentlemen's houses, all keeping coaches, and the least of them an esquire, and ten parks and forests well stocked with deer; within those ten miles there are ten market towns, one of which may be supposed to return £10,000 per week."

Captain Donnellan was executed at York for the murder of Theodosius Boughton.—Wm. Meek Meyer, Esq., tried at York for the murder of Joseph Spink, (a bailiff's assistant), and found guilty on the 20th March; respited until the 29th, and further until the 6th of April, when he was executed at Tyburn, near York.—April 10th. A large meteor passed over Horsforth, emitting a heat equal to that of summer —A *Torque*, or ancient British chain of gold, was found at Rawden, near Leeds, worth sixteen guineas.—From the 25th of March, 1780, to the same date, 1781, 98,721 pieces of narrow and 102,018 pieces of broad cloth were made in the West-Riding of Yorkshire, being an increase in the former of 11,412, and of the latter of 7,393 pieces above the quantity made the year before.

An extraordinary crop of oats this year, one stalk plucked at Lower Wortley contained 520 corns.—On Feb. 20th, was born at Keighley, Isaac Butterfield, who, at the age of twenty months, was three feet in height, and weighed nearly eight stone! He was exhibited as a gigantic child at Spring Gardens, London, where he died Feb. 1st, 1783.

1782. A slip from the Glastonbury Thorn, planted at Birstal twenty years previously, is stated to have budded on old Christmas day this year, the weather being remarkably warm for the season. Respecting the original thorn, tradition says, that Joseph, of Arimathea, preaching at Glastonbury on a Christmas day, spoke of the birth of Christ, which his hearers, being backward in believing, he proposed to strike his staff into the ground, as a test of the truth of what he had related, when it immediately put forth buds and blossoms.—The Leeds



1782.

Mercury, Jan. 15th, contains a cautionary advertisement, stating that considerable quantities of tobacco had been grown in the previous year about York, contrary to an act of the 15th of Charles II.—Died in Feb., the Rev. James Scott, M.A., vicar of Bardsey, and fifty-five years minister of Trinity church, in Leeds. He was nephew to its munificent benefactor, the Rev. Henry Robinson.—March 17th. The Rev. Jonathan Colton, curate of Headingley, destroyed himself by cutting his throat and then leaping into the river Aire.

In March, this year, a man named Frank Fern was gibbeted on Hoxley edge, near Sheffield, for the murder of Nathan Andrews, a respectable watchmaker.

*Masborough*, about half-a mile from Rotherham, of which it forms part of the suburbs, is a place of considerable importance, and has long been distinguished as the seat of numerous works connected with the manufactures of the district, whereof, a few years since, the principal were the extensive foundry of iron works of the late Samuel Walker, Esq. The history of this worthy and enterprising man is short but instructive. At twelve years of age, he was left an orphan, with two brothers and four sisters, without property, and almost without education. His industry and talents, however, soon supplied these deficiencies, and qualified him for keeping a school. He afterwards, in conjunction with his brothers, established a small foundry, which, under his fostering genius, became one of the most extensive and flourishing of the kind in Europe. He died on the 12th of May, 1782, in the 66th year of his age, rich in property, and abounding in Christian virtue. At these great iron works, there were manufactured, during the wars with America and France, immense quantities of cannon of the largest calibre, and almost every kind of cast-iron articles, as well as many of wrought iron. The large iron bridges of Sunderland, Yarm, and Staines, and also Southwark bridge, London, were cast here. The Walkers commenced a bank in Sheffield and Rotherham in 1792, but in 1836, it was transferred to a Joint Stock Company.

April 11th, died at Bath, William Denison, Esq., a merchant of Leeds, where for some years he was a great benefactor to the poor. He died worth half a million of money.—In May, the earl of Sherburn, one of the secretaries of state, sent a letter to the mayor of Leeds, recommending an association of young

1782.-1784.

men to be formed in that town, for the purpose of learning the military exercise. A corps of volunteers was soon raised.—On the 12th of October, the 51st, or 2nd West York regiment of foot, commanded by the earl of Eglintoun, arrived in Leeds from Minorca, in the celebrated defence of which they had been honourably engaged.

1783. About the month of June in this year, the distress of the people was very great at Bradford, Halifax, Huddersfield, and Rochdale; riotous mobs demanded an immediate reduction in the price of corn, and on the market days, they compelled the dealers to sell at such prices as they chose to fix; but at Halifax, they robbed the farmers both of corn and meal, for which offence two of the ringleaders, Thomas Spencer and Mark Saltonstall, were executed on Beacon hill, which overlooks the town of Halifax.—The price of wheat in Leeds market at this time was 7s. 6d. per bushel.—Sir George Armitage, of Kirklees hall, died January 21st.—The house and warehouse of Mr. Fisher, of Meadow-lane, Leeds, was destroyed by fire, February 6th.—A cessation of arms proclaimed at Leeds, between England, Spain, and America, on March 4th.—Sir George Savile's 1st battalion of the West York Militia was disembodied, after five years service, on March 15th.—On the 30th of August died the Rev. James Sykes, A.M., thirty years vicar of Bradford. March 5th. The Hon. Francis Rawdon was created baron Rawdon by patent this year, and earl Rawdon in 1816.

1784. A meeting of the freeholders of the county of York, was held at the castle, January 1st, to petition for parliamentary reform.—March 25th. Another county meeting was held at York castle, to address his majesty on the distracted state of public affairs, and advise the dissolution of parliament, which took place in the following month.

In this year, Sunday schools became general in Leeds and the neighbouring towns.—During a rapid thaw in winter, after a long frost, the waters of the Ouse inundated all the lower streets of York.—Dr. Samuel Johnson, the celebrated English lexicographer, died Sep. 18th, in this year.—Jan. 1st. Francis Ferrand Fuljambe was returned as member for Yorkshire in the place of Sir George Saville, resigned. About a fortnight after the election, Sir George Saville died at his house,

1784.-1786.

in Brompton's- row, near London, in the 58th year of his age.—A general election took place in April, this year. On the 2nd of April, Francis Ferrand Fuljambe, William Weddal, Henry Duncombe, and William Wilberforce, were nominated for the county of York, but the two former declined the contest on the evening before the election.—The first practical idea of applying steam power to wheeled carriages is due to Dr. Robison, by whom it was communicated to Watt in 1759. The latter afterwards made a model of a high-pressure locomotive, and described its principle in his fourth patent in 1784, which among certain improvements, specified a portable steam-engine and machinery for moving wheel-carriages.

1785. The Rev. Mr. Edwards, founder of the Independents, in Leeds, died Feb. 17th, this year, aged 71. He was a man of very respectable abilities, of fervent piety, and of great theological knowledge, and his method of preaching was distinguished by perspicuity and eloquence. The place in which he preached was the Old White Chapel, near the South market, Hunslet-lane, now entirely abandoned as a place of worship, in a situation, perhaps the least eligible which could be found in the town, surrounded by houses, and in an unwholesome atmosphere.

Feb. 10th. A great county meeting was held at the castle of York, to petition for parliamentary reform.

1786. Wortley Chapel of Ease, near Leeds, though built about this time, was not consecrated and brought under episcopal jurisdiction till 1813.—Lunardi, the first aeronaut in Britain, ascended in his balloon from the area of the White Cloth Hall, in Leeds, on December 4th, and, after remaining in the air about forty minutes, descended at Thorparch.—In August, this year, an attempt was made upon the life of George III., by an insane woman, named Margaret Nicholson, who, under the pretence of presenting a petition, struck at him with a knife, as he was alighting from his carriage at St. James's palace. The blow was warded off by a page, and the woman seized. She was afterwards confined during life.

"On the Thursday in Whitsun week, 1786," says Scratchard, "there was a dreadful storm of thunder and lightning, which, in its course over Batley, struck the south east pinnacle of the church tower, about five o'clock in the evening. The inconceivable power of the electric fluid has seldom been more conspicuous than it was in this instance.

1786.-1787.

The finial of the pinnacle rested upon four stones, each weighing (upon an average), 112 pounds. These were driven away in different directions, so suddenly, and so wonderfully, that the finial, as if unaffected by the shock, never lost its perpendicular, but was actually found resting upon the course of stone below, as though it had been set thereon by the original builders. The stricken four stones were cast as follows, viz.:—one upon an old barn below the vicarage, one upon the stone steps on the south side of the burial ground, (next upper Batley), which it broke; one into another part of the ground; and one fell upon the church. This account I have from several very creditable persons still living, and it induces me to mention a similar wonder, equally well authenticated, which occurred at Harewood, a few years ago.

“A very worthy person, one George Fawcett, a hatter, at at Birstal, whom I well knew, especially as an excellent singer, happened to call at Harewood for payment of a bill when a thunder storm came on. A number of sovereigns were laid, with notes, upon a table, when an awful flash alarmed the reckoners, and caused them to retire. Upon re-approaching the money, it was discovered that a guinea or a sovereign was gone, and it occasioned some explanation, Fawcett denying that he had touched the cash, and his customer averring that he had counted it out and left it. The former, I believe, with his usual generosity, good temper, and forbearance, gave up the point, and the other had no qualm of conscience; for, upon reaching down the candle snuffers, the same evening, which hung upon a nail, the good housewife discovered them to be almost as finely gilded, as though a working goldsmith had done the job. These snuffers so gilded, are, I understand, still shown at Harewood. An equal astonishment was once excited at Horsforth, but I forget the particulars.”

1787. The carpet weavers of Leeds, after a “turn-out” of several weeks, obtained an advance of wages in January, during which month robberies of the most daring and alarming description were perpetrated in that town and neighbourhood.—On the 14th of February, died Lier Whitehead, of Bramham, a celebrated runner, in his 96th year.

On the 27th of March was tried at York, the *Leeds Soke Cause*, which terminated in the exemption from suit and service at the King’s Mills, of all the tenants of the manor of Whitkirk-cum-Membris, which belonged to the dissolved monastery of St. John of Jerusalem. Mr. John Peart, the

1787.-1788.

defendant in this trial, gained a signal victory over the miller.—At a meeting in the Rotation Office, at Leeds, it was resolved that no new “alehouse licenses” should be granted in the borough, until the “present number be greatly diminished.” Similar resolutions were passed at other places “for the suppression of vice.”—Crispin Scarlet, who had murdered a washerwoman at Leeds, evaded the gallows by cutting his throat in York castle, May 29th.—June 16th, Mr. Samuel Gawthorpe, treasurer of the Leeds workhouse, received in August two mysterious letters from an unknown writer, demanding £50 to be left in a certain place by a certain time, threatening him if he should not comply (which he did not) with some dreadful vengeance on himself and family. Though a reward of £40 was offered in the London Gazette, the offender was never discovered.—On the 10th of October, a new peal of eight bells was opened at Halifax.—Edmund Barker, of Thorne, was committed for three months to York castle, for exporting ninety tods of wool from Goxhill, in Lincolnshire to Dunkirk, in France, besides forfeiting all his goods and chattels, and 3s. for every pound weight of wool so exported, amounting to £378.

1788. On the 15th of April, this year, the Court of King’s Bench determined that a woman was competent to serve the office of overseer for the poor.—Commodore Phillips arrived at Botany bay, from England, with the first convicts: on landing he assumed the office of governor of the new settlement.—Three Swedish ships were seized at Hull, “for smuggling wool out of the kingdom;” for some time they had taken out 1300 packs annually.—In January, the philanthropic Mr. Howard, after visiting the principal lazarettos and prisons of Europe, and the coasts of Asia and Egypt, arrived in Leeds, where he inspected the infirmary, the workhouse, and the prison, and expressed himself highly pleased with the two former.

Many political meetings were held at Leeds this year for reform and the abolition of slavery, and on July 1st, there were great rejoicings, and a grand procession of workmen as a testimony of gratitude for the passing of the bill to prevent the exportation of live sheep and wool, in which the French had encouraged an illicit trade, for the purpose of robbing the English clothier of his staple. A speech, written for the occasion, and delivered by a woolcomber on horseback, at the head of the procession, concluded with “may we never want a *Pitt* for the French to fall into!”

The iron works in the neighbourhood of Bradford are

1788-1789.

universally known. The manor of Royds hall, together with the minerals under the estate, was purchased from the last proprietor in 1788, by the ancestors of Messrs. Hird, Dawson, and Hardy, who originally established the celebrated Low Moor Iron and Coal Works, now the most important in the north of England. The works comprise furnaces, forges, tilts, and mills, on a very extensive scale, both for the manufacture of pig and bar iron, and for rolling and slitting it into sheets, bars, and rods, with foundries for the casting of cannon and ordnance of all kinds, in which several steam engines of great power are also employed. In addition to these, boilers for steam engines, sugar pans for the East and West Indies, water pipes of large calibre, and castings of every kind are manufactured, in which more than 2000 persons are employed day and night. The Bierley Iron Works were commenced in 1810, by Henry Leah and James Marshall, Esqrs. These works, conducted on an extensive scale, are confined solely to the manufacture of pig iron, which, being the produce of ore from the same mine, is equal in quality with that of the Low Moor. At Bowling, the substratum abounds with coal and iron ore, which have been wrought for more than half a century by the Bowling Iron Company, whose works are very extensive. The accumulated heaps of refuse from the mines, forming huge mounds surrounding the excavations, have been planted with trees, which adds greatly to the aspect of the neighbourhood.

In October, the duke of Leeds gave £100, and Mr. Ridsdale £500, towards building a new church at Wakefield.

In November, the centenary of the "glorious Revolution" was honoured at Leeds with every demonstration of public joy, and, amongst a brilliant assembly of near 300 ladies and gentlemen, were present earl Fitzwilliam, lord Scarborough, and other distinguished personages.

1789. About the year 1709, a piece of land, containing five acres, was enclosed from Bramley-Common, and conveyed to trustees, upon trust, that they should apply the rents towards the better support and maintenance of the poor of Bramley. The rents were applied for a great length of time to the support of a free-school, and, on the enclosure of the common in 1789, an allotment of two acres, twenty perches, was awarded in respect of Bramley school, to be applied to such uses as the ancient school-land was intended to be. On the enclosure of the commons of Bramley, four allotments, containing nine acres, three roods, twenty-eight perches, were awarded to the curate, churchwardens,

1789.

and overseers, "upon trust, to apply the rents for the benefit of such inhabitants within the township as belong thereto, but do not receive relief from the poor assessments, and do not occupy any land or tenements of more than the yearly value of £5, and who have no allotment under the enclosure act." The rent of this land, £34. 5s. per annum, is laid out in the purchase of cloth for shirting, which is distributed among the poor people on St. Thomas's day. Also, on the enclosure of the common, an allotment of six perchés of land, on which a dwelling-house and buildings were erected, was awarded to the curate, churchwardens, and overseers, the rents to be applied for teaching poor girls. These premises are let at the yearly rent of £6, being the fair annual value; and the rent is paid to a schoolmistress for teaching six girls to read, knit, and sew. There being a trifling accumulation, it has been regularly applied to the paying of £3 a year for teaching three additional girls, until the fund shall be exhausted. Benjamin Green left £10, the interest to be paid on the 25th of March, for a charity sermon to be preached on that day. This sum remains in the hands of the perpetual curate of Bramley for the time being. William Clough, in 1710, devised one-third part of seven closes in Bramley, called the West Royds, to the poor, the rent to be distributed at the discretion of four trustees. The three closes are now comprised in one, containing six acres two roods, and the yearly rent, amounting to £18, is distributed among the poor of the township, in small sums varying from 3s. to 6s. 6d.

In January, subscriptions were opened in most of the towns of the West Riding, for the relief of the numerous distressed poor;—about Wakefield highway robberies were so frequent as to create a general alarm.——On March 16th there were great rejoicings in Leeds and the surrounding villages, for the recovery of George III. from severe mental indisposition: fat oxen and sheep were roasted in various places, and with "oceans" of ale and punch were given to the joyful populace. The night was enlivened with bonfires and illuminated windows; but the people of Horbury, as a more useful and lasting testimony of their loyalty and gladness, erected a Sunday school for the benefit of their township.——In May, a curious gold ring, weighing more than an ounce, was found on Towton field, near Tadcaster, where it is supposed to have fallen from the finger of a slain chief, in the memorable battle fought there between the houses of Lancaster and York.



1789.-1790.

The prince of Wales and duke of York were present at York races, and visited Wentworth house, where a grand entertainment was given to the royal brothers, and 700 nobility and gentry, who banqueted in sight of 40,000 spectators assembled in front of the house. Previously to leaving the city of York, the princes ordered lieutenant-colonel St. Leger to pay into the hands of Walter Fawkes, Esq., then high sheriff of the county, 200 guineas for the relief of debtors in the castle. They also gave twenty guineas to the gaol, in order to clothe some female convicts under sentence of transportation; they discharged the debts of three prisoners in Ouse bridge gaol, and performed several other acts of charity.——In November, a beautiful statue, in memory of Sir George Savile, bart., who died in 1784, was erected in York minster, at the expense of his constituents, whom he had faithfully served in five successive parliaments.——In this year commenced the French revolution. At first the proceedings of the French were justified by the principal leaders of opposition in the English parliament and by a numerous class of the community; but, ere long, the violence shown at the destruction of the Bastile, the abolition of hereditary privileges, the open disrespect for religion, and other symptoms of an extravagant spirit, produced a considerable change in the sentiments of the British people. The coalition of Austria and Prussia with the fugitive noblesse, having excited the spirit of the French people to a species of frenzy, and led to the establishment of a Republic, and the death of the king, the British government were roused to a sense of danger which hung over all ancient institutions, and found a pretext for declaring war against France in January, 1793.

1790. On the 5th of February, in his 70th year, at Ribton, near Otley, died Joseph Holmes, popularly called *Joe Rogue*, a begging miser, who died worth £550, never having, during his whole life, spent one farthing for food or raiment.——Horbury church, near Wakefield, was built this year, at the sole expense of alderman Carr, of York.

The noted wiseman of Romalds moor, near Keighley, was consulted professionally by the Kendal and Penrith carrier, who made a pilgrimage to this popular soothsayer, in order to detect a thief, who had robbed his waggon. Having asked his question, and paid his offering, he was dismissed with this consolatory assurance, that, "if the thief did not restore the property before a certain day, *it should be worse for him.*" The carrier's report of these

1790.

oracular words had a wonderful effect, and, as it happened, a beneficial result with his credulous neighbours, for believing that the Seer would certainly raise the devil, to revenge the wronged, and that Satan, vexed at being disturbed for such a trifle, might probably raise the wind in his fury, they prevented their thatched roofs from being torn off their houses, by placing upon them harrows and other heavy articles. Early in the day fixed for the restitution, namely, March 25th, a casual hurricane took place, that did much damage, and served to increase the high opinion previously entertained of "*Wise Robin of Romald's moor.*"——In November, as some workmen were digging clay in a field in Leeds, now occupied by part of George-street, they discovered about fifty oak coffins, containing human bones, supposed to have lain there since 1672, when the plague raged, and the parish register says, "1,400 persons were buried in the Vicar's croft and crofts adjoining:" the coffins were quite fresh, but the bodies were reduced to dust.——In December, the snow was a yard deep.

John Howard, a celebrated English philanthropist, born in 1726, the son of an upholsterer, who left him a fortune. Having been made prisoner on the sea, and held for some time in captivity, he was so moved by the condition of prisoners, that he resolved to consecrate his life to their service and relief. He travelled over nearly all Europe, everywhere visiting the prisons, lazarettos, and hospitals, in order to discover means for abating their insalubrity, and to extend to their inmates the most effectual attentions. He died in 1790 of a malignant fever, which he caught at Kherson, in Russia, while visiting a sick person. His fellow-countrymen erected a statue in his honour.

After a sudden thaw and heavy rain, the Aire and other rivers rose higher than they had ever done since the memorable flood of 1775, when several bridges were destroyed. In the flood this year, Mr. Gilyard's dyehouse, on Sheepscar beck, near Leeds, was washed away, with a large quantity of cloth.——The Leeds Benevolent or Strangers' Friend Society, was founded this year, and is an extensively useful and beneficial institution, and entitled to the good wishes of all classes. Its object is the relief of the distressed, the friendless, and the strangers of all denominations, who are suffering from poverty or disease. The objects of pity recommended to this society are visited and reported to the committee before receiving relief. The applicants average about 1,000 annually. The society is wholly sup-

1790.-1791.

ported by annual subscriptions, voluntary donations, and public collections.——The well-known tune called Doncaster was composed this year by Dr. Edward Miller, for 51 years organist of Doncaster church, but better known as the *Author of the History and Antiquities of Doncaster*.

Henry Duncombe and William Wilberforce were returned for Yorkshire without opposition.——In this year the act of parliament of the 30th Geo. III. cap. 68, was passed, entitled “an act for better supplying the town and neighbourhood of Leeds, in the county of York, with water; and for more effectually lighting and cleansing the streets and other places within the said town and neighbourhood, and removing and preventing nuisances, annoyances, encroachments, and obstructions therein.”

When the act for the water-works was obtained, (1790) it extended the provisions of the former act for lighting, &c., to those parts of the town which had hitherto remained without the privilege of nocturnal lights, and to the distance of a thousand yards from the bars. The superintendence of the whole system of lighting, was vested in the commissioners of the water-works.

1791. On January 24th, died that eminent Leeds merchant and alderman, Joseph Fountaine, Esq.——Ann Green, a pauper, of Sprotbro’, but a native of Kirkheaton, died March 6th, at the advanced age of 118 years.——For two hours on the 15th of August, a most dreadful storm of thunder and lightning prevailed, which destroyed a house at Fewston, set fire to the furze on Sicklinhall moor, deprived a girl of sight at Barnsley, killed a boy at Wakefield, and burnt down a hayrick and cottage at Summer-scales, near Skipton.——On August 22nd, the Right Hon. Charles James Fox, accompanied by earl Fitzwilliam, arrived at York, where he was presented with the freedom of the city in a gold box worth fifty guineas.

The first stone of St. Paul’s church, Park-square, in Leeds, was laid September 26th, by Dr. Wilson, the bishop of Bristol, who had previously presented to the founder, the Rev. Miles Atkinson, the ground upon which it is built. The church was consecrated by Dr. Markham, archbishop of York, September 10th, 1793. The style of architecture is Grecian. The east and west ends display four pilasters of the Ionic order, supporting their respective entablature and pediment; a light square tower also rises at the west end, decorated by vases and Ionic windows. The whole is surmounted with a dome, finishing in a ball and cross. The interior is neatly fitted with a gallery extending round

1791.

the entire edifice. A good toned organ was erected in 1801, by subscription. The church cost £10,000, and contains 1,500 sittings. The perpetual curacy, valued at £133, is in the gift of the vicar. The Rev. J. R. Stratton, M.A., is the incumbent.——Salem chapel, Hunslet-lane, occupied by the Independents or Congregationalists, was erected this year, and is the oldest chapel in the town belonging to this body of Christians. It is a substantial stone structure. The exterior is rusticated, with the facade terminating in a pediment and balustrade: the lower windows are large, and have circular heads, the upper ones smaller, and square. The gallery runs along three sides of the chapel, with seats for about 1,000 persons. The Rev. Edward Parsons was formerly minister at this chapel: the present minister is the Rev. W. Hudswell.

John Berkenhout was born at Leeds, and intended for the mercantile profession, which he quitted, and entered into the military service of Prussia, and next into that of England. In 1760 he went to Edinburgh, and studied physic; but took his doctor's degree at Leyden, in 1765. Attended the British commissioners to America in 1778, and, on his return, obtained a pension. His works, published at different times, on history, literature, biography, medicine, and chemistry, comprise nineteen volumes. He died this year, in the 60th year of his age.

In this year much discontent prevailed amongst the working classes of Sheffield; for in July, the doors and windows of the gaol, in King-street, were destroyed by a riotous mob, who liberated the prisoners, and afterwards proceeded to Broomhall, the residence of the vicar, (the Rev. James Wilkinson), where they damaged the library and furniture, and burnt down ricks of hay. On this charge, five men were apprehended, and one of them named John Bennett, was executed at York, in September. In the same month, Dr. Graham delivered a lecture at the Tontine, on the efficacy of "earth-bathing," and afterwards exhibited himself and a female patient "buried up to the lips in earth, in the garden of Mr. Bet, at the Elephant!"

John Wesley, son of Samuel Wesley, was born at Epworth, in 1703. He was a scholar of the Charter house, and thence went to Christchurch college, Oxford. In 1724 he was elected a Fellow of Lincoln college, was made Greek lecturer, and took pupils. In the following year he was ordained. Wesley was noted for his classical learning, his skill in argument, and his poetical powers. In 1729,

1791.

having been led to serious reflection by reading some religious works, he formed a society of 15 persons, who met together to read the scripture and to pray. They employed their time in visiting the poor, and other good works, without losing a moment of the day. This mode of life gained for them the name of Methodists, and the appellation which had been given them in derision they retained. Another authority says, that they were first called "*Methodists*" by a member of the University of Cambridge, who gave them that name after some surgeons at Rome, who were styled "*Methodisto*," from placing their patients under a peculiar regimen. In 1735 John Wesley and his brother Charles accompanied some other missionaries to Georgia, where they remained for some time preaching the gospel. When he returned to England, he began to imagine that he himself had never been converted. According to his own account, his conversion took place suddenly, May 24th, 1738, at a quarter before nine in the evening. Soon after this he visited the Moravian brethren in Germany, and became acquainted with their system and organisation. On his return, in the autumn of 1738, he began the foundation of the Methodist society. He employed his time in exhortation and preaching, and soon collected a large number of followers. He then formed a connection with Whitefield, and joined him in Bristol, where a Methodist meeting-house was erected in 1739. The friendship between the two preachers did not, however, last long, and their separation was followed by the disunion of the bodies to which they belonged. Wesley now arranged the government and system of Methodism. He was fond of power, and would share it with no one. He was exceedingly zealous, diligent, and energetic. Besides exhortations, he would preach twice, and even four or five times every day. He travelled a great deal, and was unremitting in his labours till within a week of his death. His style, both in preaching and writing, was clear and dispassionate; he was agreeable in his manners, and mild and grave in his appearance. This extraordinary man died March 2nd, 1791, in the 88th year of his age. Besides his pulpit labours, he wrote a great number of works on religious and other subjects.

The corporation of York this year suspended their toll on corn, for the purpose of trying whether the removal of that impost would improve the market of the city.—May 6th. In the course of an angry debate

1791.-1792.

on the French revolution in the House of Commons, Mr. Burke rushed from the side of Mr. Fox, to the Ministerial benches, declaring his final secession from the opposition, and that his friendship for Mr. Fox was at an end.——April 10th. Died at Hackney, aged 68 years, Dr. Richard Price, F.R.S., a man well known for his writings and political opinions.——September 29th. Frederick, second son to George III., and the eleventh duke of York, was married at Berlin, to the princess Frederica, daughter of the king of Prussia.

Dec. 21st. The buckle makers of Birmingham sent a deputation to the prince of Wales to represent their distressed situation, in consequence of the prevailing fashion of wearing shoe strings instead of buckles.

1792. On Feb. 25th, the shock of an earthquake was felt at Doncaster, and on the coasts of Yorkshire and Lincolnshire.——On April 14th, were executed at York, John Lucas, and Thomas Stearman, of Leeds, for burglary, and Spence Broughton, of Sheffield, for robbing the Rotherham postman, on Attercliffe common, where his body was hung in chains; the gibbet post remained till 1827.

The French nation renounced conquests as the object of their wars.——The Methodist preachers of the Leeds, Wakefield, and Sheffield, Bradford, Birstal, Dewsbury, and Otley circuits, met at Leeds, in May, and resolved, “not to separate from the church.” In the following year, the subject again came before the Conference held in Leeds, when it was resolved by the preachers, that their societies should still remain members of the established church, and that the sacrament should not be administered by their preachers, “except where the whole society is unanimous for it, and will not be contented without it,” and then only in the evening, “and according to the forms of the church of England.”——In July, Foster Powell, the pedestrian, in his 58th year, walked from London to York and back, (394 miles) in five days and 13¼ hours.

This year at the Lewes wool fair, the *price of wool* was from 56s. to 65s. per tod of 32lbs.

That cruel sport, Bull Baiting, was very prevalent at this period, though greatly deprecated by the Leeds journalists, one of whom, after describing a grand “*Roaratorio*,” at Rochdale, where 5,000 people witnessed a bull baited, a whole day, in the middle of the river, says, “surely the amateurs of such inhuman amusements want nothing but hoofs and horns to make them far more beastly than the wretched animals they torture.” At *Birstal feast*, this year,

1792.

the enraged Taurus broke the rope that held him to the stake, and pursued several of his inhuman torturers into a brick pond, where they deservedly got a good ducking; having dispersed the crowd of spectators, the poor bull was released from further insult.——A gang of thieves having clandestinely introduced themselves into the drawing-room at St. James's palace, London, in dress clothes, tried to hustle and rob the prince of Wales.

Feb. 23rd. Sir Joshua Reynolds, the celebrated painter, died in his 66th year.——August 10th. Storming of the Tuilleries.

The inhabitants of most of the towns in Yorkshire met, in December, and made public declarations of their firm attachment to the constitution and the reigning monarch.

At Leeds the effigy of *Tom Paine*, (holding a pair of stays in one hand, and his Rights of Man in the other) was carried through the streets with a halter round his neck, and (having been well whipped and hanged at the market cross) thrown into a large bonfire, amidst the shouts of the surrounding multitude.——The Piece Hall at Halifax was first opened about the year 1730; and the intervening time, from thence to the year 1792, or the breaking out of the French war, may be regarded as one of the most flourishing eras of the worsted trade in Yorkshire. Though the cheapness of calicoes as an article of female dress, since the improvements in the cotton manufacture, materially abridged the sale for some kinds of worsted goods in England, this was more than compensated by the increased demand for carpets with worsted warps, and other articles of luxury, in which worsted yarn was employed.

The demand in foreign markets, from the year 1782 to 1792, for English worsted goods, greatly exceeded that of any former period; but after the breaking out of the French war, the worsted trade at Halifax began to decline.

About this time the spinning of worsted by machinery was established at Bradford, and the vicinity; and continuing to increase, drew round that place the manufacturers of worsted goods on the decline of the Halifax trade. Bradford is now the principal seat of the worsted manufacture in Yorkshire; and some of the proprietors of the worsted mills, besides supplying the smaller manufacturers with yarn, employ a very great number of looms themselves, and carry on this branch of trade on a scale of extent never before known in the worsted manufacture.

The worsted manufactory has been the means of increasing the prosperity and population of the town of Bradford, in a manner altogether unprecedented in British history.



1792.

It now presents an astonishing scene of active and successful industry, its market is one of the greatest in the kingdom, and its manufacturers and merchants are distinguished by their skill, diligence, and enterprise. The Piece Hall, at Bradford, is a tolerably commodious mart for stuffed goods; it is one hundred and forty-four feet long by thirty-six broad, and is divided into two apartments—the upper and the lower chamber.

The Music Hall, in Albion-street, Leeds, was erected in 1792; and the first stone was laid July 2nd. The ground floor was for some years occupied as a hall for woollen manufactures, especially for blankets, and afforded accommodation to those clothiers who were excluded from the Cloth halls. It received, and for some time retained, the ignominious appellation of Tom Paine's Hall. It is a plain, but commodious building of brick, contains four rooms on one floor, reached by steps running right and left from the vestibule. The largest room is the music saloon, 70 feet by 30, and has an orchestra and gallery, with lofty coved ceiling, from which several handsome glass chandeliers are suspended. The next room in size is the picture gallery, 60 feet long, at one end of which is the ante-room, and at the other the cabinet, all lighted from the ceiling; the three last can be thrown into one suite. In these rooms "The northern society for the encouragement of the fine arts" held their annual exhibitions for many years; and it would be gratifying to see them again used for the same purpose. The principal public meetings are generally held in the saloon. It has for some years back been used for the concerts, under the management of "The Leeds Choral and Recreation Societies," which have been conducted with great spirit and success. The hall has considerably diminished in importance since the erection of the Town hall.

About this time associations were formed in England, for the protection of liberty and property.—Feb. 18th. The trial of Thomas Paine came on before lord Kenyon and a special jury, at Guildhall, for writing and publishing a seditious pamphlet, entitled "The second part of the rights of man." Mr. Erskine (afterwards lord Erskine) was counsel for Mr. Paine. He was found guilty, but had previously absconded to France, where he was elected a member of the National Convention.

Feb. 19th. The Alien bill was brought into the House of Lords by lord Grenville, and read a first time, and,

1792.-1793.

having gone through the usual forms, it soon passed into law.—*Sir Richard Arkwright* was born on the 23rd of December, 1732, at Preston, in Lancashire. He was the youngest of a family of thirteen children, and his parents were very poor. He was brought up to the business of a barber, which he continued to follow until he was 35 years of age. In the latter part of the year 1767, Arkwright became acquainted with a person of the name of John Kay, a clockmaker, at Warrington. In the following year he and Kay went to Preston, and began to construct a machine for the spinning of cotton thread, which drew out the cotton from a coarse to a fine and harder twisted thread, so that it was fit to be used for warp as well as weft. A Mr. Smaley found the capital, and the machine was set to work; but it caused so much dissatisfaction amongst the workers on the old plan, that Arkwright deemed it necessary in 1769 to leave Preston, and fixed himself at Nottingham. He then took out a patent for the machine as its inventor, and by the aid of Messrs. Need and Strut, (who became his partners), commenced a spinning mill driven by horse power. In 1771 Arkwright and his partners established another mill at Cromford, in the parish of Wirksworth, in Derbyshire, which was turned by water. Here Arkwright formed a complete system of carding and roving by machinery, for which, in 1775, he took out a second patent. He had much difficulty in defending his inventions against invasions; but nevertheless, he rapidly made his way to fortune and influence. In 1786, when Margaret Nicholson attempted to assassinate Geo. III., Arkwright presented an address from Wirksworth, and received the honour of knighthood. In the year following he was made high sheriff of Derbyshire. Sir Richard Arkwright died at his seat at Cromford, August 3rd, 1792, leaving property worth at least half a million sterling. Arkwright has the merit of so improving the mechanical resources of his country, as to provide work and subsistence for tens of thousands of his fellow men, not only in England, but in many parts of the world.

1793. Jan 17th. The memorable trial of the king of France, Louis XVI. terminated; at the end of which the president made the following report, that out of 721 voters; 336 were for death, 319 for imprisonment during the war, two for perpetual imprisonment; eight for a suspension of his execution after sentence, until the expulsion of the Bourbon

1793.

family; 23 were not for putting him to death, unless the French territory was invaded by any foreign power; and one was for death, but with commutation of punishment. The president then took off his hat, and said, "In consequence of this, I declare that the punishment pronounced by the National Convention against Louis Capet is Death." It is worthy of recording, that the duke of Orleans, voted for death, while Thomas Paine, the decided foe to regal power, more humanely voted for banishment. The unfortunate monarch, was guillotined at the Place de Louis Quinze, in Paris, since called the Place de la Revolution. The king was in the 39th year of his age. Oct, 26th, his beautiful and ill-fated consort, after a mock trial before the revolutionary tribunal, was beheaded, and her body interred in the same manner with that of her husband, in a grave filled with quick lime. Marie Antoinette possessed both talents and virtues; but proud, indiscreet, vindictive, rash, and petulant, she had exercised a political influence that hastened the fall of the monarchy. It is related of her that when laid on the fatal block, she turned her head aside to take a last look at the Tuilleries. This accomplished woman, a model of grace and beauty, was in her 38th year.

Nov. 8th. The celebrated Madame Roland was guillotined. This able and accomplished woman died with Roman fortitude, exclaiming on the scaffold, "*O, Liberty! how many crimes are committed in thy name!*"——New year's day was enlivened at Leeds by a peal of 5,040 changes, rung in three hours and twelve minutes at the parish church, by eight old men, whose united ages amounted to 577 years, averaging 72 years, the eldest being 82, and the youngest 65.

On the 28th January this year the Leeds corporation, at a court held on that day, declared by a resolution, "that Monopolies are inconsistent with the true principles of commerce, because they restrain at once the spirit of enterprise and the freedom of competition; and injurious to the country where they exist, because the Monopolist by fixing the rate of both purchase and sale, can oppress the public at discretion." This declaration was ordered to be printed in the Leeds, Manchester, and Liverpool newspapers.

Feb. 26th. His majesty George III. reviewed three battalions of guards, being the first division destined against France, after the declaration of war; other branches of the royal family attended the review, after which they accompanied the troops to Greenwich, whence they embarked for the continent, and landed at Helvoet Sluys, in Holland, on

1793.-1794.

the 1st of March, and who, together with our British troops, under the command of the duke of York, were engaged for the first time in these wars, and suffered severely. The action was fought near St. Amand, and was very sanguinary, when the French general Dampiere, (who succeeded Dumourier) was mortally wounded, and expired in the course of three days.

Dec. 19th. Of thirty-one ships of the line, in the harbour of Toulon, nine were burned, and two carried away by the British, who evacuated that place with precipitation.——This year a debating society was established at Leeds, for the discussion of literary and moral subjects, but the perverse temper of the times to everything that wore the aspect of political inquiry caused it to droop and die in a few years, and subsequently such institutions amongst the lower classes were suppressed by the jealous legislature

The 1st regiment of West York Militia were embodied at Wakefield, Feb 11th, and the second regiment at York, Feb. 22nd.——The first stone of the Leeds Catholic chapel, Lady-lane, was laid April 12th, by Miss Tancred, of Brampton. The United Methodist Free Church have now a chapel erected on the site thereof.

On the 1st of July, in this year, the price of the Leeds newspapers was advanced from 3½d. to 4d.; the stamp duty was then 2d., the paper ½d., and the newsman's commission ½d., so that before this advance, there was only ½d. left for printing each paper.——The weather was so hot on July 16th, that the thermometer stood at 93 degrees, when exposed to the north and in the shade.——In December, the bole of a large tree was found in a quarry at Coulton, near Leeds, buried under seven feet of solid rock, and measuring twelve feet in length; the rest of it, being petrified, formed part of the rock.

1794. On January 25th, Mrs. Tarburton, of Potternewton, was frozen to death in a severe storm on Chapeltown moor.——Mr. Applepard's dyehouse, Mill-hill, Leeds, was burnt down March 8th, damage £1,000.

James Hindley, of Leeds, was sentenced to two years imprisonment at York for selling seditious papers, entitled, "The Tithe and Tax Club."——Among many persons who died of that dreadful malady, Hydrophobia, in April, were, Thomas Austin, of Armley, and Mr. Clegg, of Dewsbury.——Corps of volunteers were established at Leeds, Bradford, Halifax, Wakefield, and other towns,

1794.

for internal defence against insurrections or other commotions; liberal subscriptions were obtained for the purpose, to which earl Fitzwilliam gave £1000, and many gentlemen £100 each ——— St. James's church, York-street, Leeds, was built and opened this year, by the countess of Huntingdon's connexion, under the name of Zion chapel, but has for many years been used by the established church. The building is octagonal, and at each angle is a column rising to the roof, and supporting a small cornice. In the west front is a portico. The interior has a gallery, and over the front entrance is an organ. It has 1,300 sittings, and is in the gift of the vicar and incumbency of the Rev. Edward Jackson, M.A.

On June 1st, in this year, a desperate action was fought between the British fleet, commanded by lord Howe, and the French fleet under admiral Villaret. The British fleet consisted of 25 ships, and that of the French of 26. Le Vengeur, 74 guns, was sunk, and six ships of the line were taken. ——— Charles Henry Neville, son of John Pate Neville, Esq., of Badsworth, in the West-Riding of Yorkshire, was at this time a lieutenant in the queen's or 2nd regiment of foot, and was killed by a grape shot at the age of 19, on board earl Howe's ship, after fighting gallantly in the engagement between the English and French fleets for three days.

July 23rd. A calamitous fire broke out at Cock-hill, Ratcliffe-highway, London, occasioned by the boiling over of a pitch-kettle on a boat-builder's premises, from whose warehouses, which were soon consumed, the flames spread to a barge laden with saltpetre and other combustible stores, and thence communicated to several small craft that were lying near, and could not be got off. By this melancholy event, nearly 700 houses were destroyed, and the distress of the population was immense. Government provided tents from the tower, and the public soon raised near £20,000 to afford immediate relief to the sufferers.

Jan. 16th. Died in his 57th year, Edward Gibbon, the celebrated historian. ——— May 9th. A bill to enable his majesty to take French subjects into British pay was passed into a law. ——— Aug. 14th. Died George Colman, senior, the celebrated dramatic writer. ——— May 17th. The Habeas Corpus Act was suspended. ——— Aug. 3rd. The marriage between prince Augustus Frederick, son of George III., with lady Augusta Murray, was determined in the Arches Court, Doctors' Commons, London, to be null and void. ——— Nov. 5th. Thomas Hardy, indicted for

1794.-1795.

high treason, was acquitted, after a trial of eight days, at the Old Bailey, London. He was defended by Mr. Thomas Erskine and Mr. Gibbs. John Thelwall, John Horne Tooke, Thomas Holcroft, &c., were afterwards tried for the same crime, and all acquitted.——Dec. 6th. The duke of York quitted the British army, and returned to London, leaving the command with general Sir Ralph Abercrombie and general Walmoden.——Nov. 22nd. A treaty of commerce and navigation between Great Britain and the United States of America was signed at London.——Dec. 30th. The king (George III.) announced to parliament the marriage of the prince of Wales with the princess Caroline, (his own cousin) daughter of the duke of Brunswick.

On the 29th of September, this year, the Leeds corporation passed a vote of thanks to the volunteer corps of this borough, for their readiness in enrolling themselves for its defence, and also ordered an elegant sword to be purchased and presented by the mayor in the name of the corporation, “to Thomas Lloyd, Esq., colonel-commandant of the said volunteers.” The cost of the sword was £84.

1795. In this year a female who was cook to Mrs. Metcalf, a widow lady, residing opposite the church at Northallerton, in cutting a turnip, found in the heart of it a gold ring, which turned out to be the wedding ring of Mrs. Wood, the gardener’s wife, who had lost it when weeding in the garden ten or twelve years before.

Jan. 23rd. Died at his seat in Staffordshire, Mr. Josiah Wedgwood, famous for his improvements in earthenware and porcelain.——Earl Fitzwilliam landed in Dublin on the 4th of January, as successor to lord Westmorland, in the lord-lieutenancy of Ireland, but was recalled from that exalted office on the 21st of February following, to the great regret of the Irish public, especially the Catholics, who appeared in deep mourning on the day of his departure from Dublin. March 19th, the Roman Catholic delegates from Ireland presented a petition to the king on the subject of his recall.——The Right Hon. Edwin Lord Harewood, who was created a peer July 9th, 1790, died this year, January 25th: his loss was greatly deplored, especially by the peasantry of Harewood, who, having often experienced his benevolence, considered him as a father.——The fulling mills at Poole, near Otley, belonging to Close and Co. were destroyed by fire Jan. 27th: damage £2000.——On the 9th of February, the river Aire, which had been frozen for a considerable time, exhibited a most appalling scene, occasioned by a rapid thaw and

1795.

heavy rain, which broke up the ice and swelled the river so as to inundate all the lower streets in Leeds, where incalculable mischief was done by the foaming torrent and the immense blocks of floating ice, which carried away cloth and tenters from the fields, threw down walls, dye-houses, and several dwelling-houses, and greatly injured the bridge, across one of the arches of which a boat was forced on its broad side, and at length broken to pieces by a vast accumulation of ice and water, which, if the vessel had not given way, would have soon overthrown the bridge itself, as was feared by the anxious spectators of this destructive flood, which drowned three men in Hunslet dam, and floated down the river, horses, carts, timber, furniture, &c., &c., in rapid succession. All the principal rivers in the county of York exhibited a similar spectacle, and the roads in various places were laid so deep in water, as to stop the mails and coaches several days; a man was drowned at Dewsbury mills; three at Aldborough: and Mr. John Robinson, of Frizinghall mills, lost his life in attempting to cross the road near his own dwelling; a boat laden with coal was sunk with its crew in the Calder, and several bridges were carried away in various parts of the county.

In March, Leeds raised its quota of 27 men for the service of his majesty's navy, and Bradford raised its number by a sort of recruiting procession of the gentlemen and tradesmen who paraded the town, accompanied by a band of music.——In May, seven quakers from Lothersdale were committed to York castle for refusing to pay tithes to the Rev. George Markham, vicar of Carlton, who obtained a decree against them, both for several years arrears of tithes, and the costs of an expensive law-suit; but, true to their conscience, they would pay neither.

On June 27th, general Cameron reviewed the Leeds, Bradford, Halifax, Huddersfield, and Wakefield volunteers upon Chapeltown moor: at this grand military spectacle were present 60,000 spectators and 300 carriages. The wise system of inclosing productive land and rendering it conducive to the support of an immensely increasing population, rendered it necessary that this plot of ground containing more than 300 acres, should be applied to other purposes, and Chapeltown moor has long since disappeared.

On July 26th, admiral Pasley visited Bradford, where he had his loss repaired by one of Mr. Mann's patent legs. Similar ones have since been worn by the marquis of Anglesea, and several other heroes, who were maimed



1795.

in the late wars.——Employment was at this time scarce, (wheat sold at from twelve to fourteen shillings per bushel) but the evil was in some measure alleviated by subscriptions for supplying the poor at reduced prices; the 3d. loaf of wheaten bread weighed only 14 oz. 1 dr. During the dearth, Walter Fawkes, Esq., of Farnley hall, distributed weekly twenty loads of wheat amongst the poor on his estate and its neighbourhood; at the same time he used the most rigid economy in his own house, and his benevolent example so affected the neighbouring millers, that they offered to grind for the poor gratis. Such was the distress, that for some time the manufacturing districts were the frequent scenes of riots, and clamorous cries for bread, and these disturbances sometimes occurred even in the agricultural villages. At Castleford, the starving inhabitants seized a vessel laden with corn, and did not give her up till the riot act was read, and the military on the spot had captured a dozen of their leaders.

Henry Redhead Yorke, a notorious agitator of the public mind, was convicted at the York assizes on a charge of sedition, uttered by him in a speech at Sheffield; he died in 1813.——In Sheffield flour was 5s. 6d. per stone, but after a liberal subscription of £8,100, and the appointment of a committee to supply the poor at a cheap rate, it fell to 2s. 6d.——Died on the 11th of August, in his 65th year, that eminent self-taught glass stainer and painter, Wm. Peckett, Esq., of York, who, by many ingenious and noble designs executed for cathedrals, churches, and noblemen's seats, has distinguished and immortalized his name in the school of art. Some of his most admired productions may be seen in the windows of the cathedrals of York, Lincoln, and Exeter, and the universities of Oxford and Cambridge. He had the honour of reviving that elegant art, in the study and practice of which he spent upwards of forty years, and on which subject he left behind him a manuscript treatise, containing drawings illustrative of the furnace, with receipts for producing every colour and shade, especially that rare and beautiful hue, the ruby, so seldom seen in perfection on stained glass. This manuscript was offered for publication by his late relict, but the price being considered too high, (ten guineas a copy) subscribers could not be obtained to warrant its going to press.

After a daring attack had been made on the life of his majesty George III., a county meeting was held at York, for the purpose of discussing the merits of two bills

1795.-1796.

brought into parliament, "for the safety and preservation of his majesty's person and government," and "for the suppression of seditious meetings." The meeting held in the Guildhall consisted of two parties, who each elected a chairman, viz.: Sir Thomas Gascoigne, bart., whose party remained in the hall, and petitioned against the bills, and Bacon Frank, Esq., whose party adjourned to the castle yard, and petitioned for the bills.——In Nov., prince Wm. Frederick, of Gloucester, was at York, and received the freedom of the city in a gold box.

1796. In January, wheat sold at from 12s. to 13s. per bushel, and the principal inhabitants of Leeds and Bradford entered into a solemn agreement to reduce its consumption in their families, at least one-third, till it should fall to 8s. per bushel.——On Jan. 4th, the Leeds volunteers were reviewed on Chapeltown moor by the royal duke of Gloucester.——Jan. 10th, died, aged 34, Thomas Close, Esq., of Leeds, adjutant of the corps of Leeds gentlemen volunteer infantry, commanded by lieutenant-colonel Lloyd. The high esteem in which Mr. Close was held by the corps induced the non-commissioned officers, who were anxious to show their respect, and pay a tribute of gratitude to his memory, to erect a tablet expressive of the same, in the parish church of his native town.

In the same month died Wm. Fowler, who, during 37 years, drove "Mr. Nicholson's machine" from York to Sheffield and back without ever being obstructed in his journeys by sickness, till the fatal illness which carried him off in a few weeks.——The extensive linen manufactory of Messrs. Marshall and Benyons, at Leeds, was destroyed by fire, Feb. 13th, when eight persons were killed and twenty wounded, by the falling of a wall; the property destroyed was estimated at £8000.

May 6th. Died, aged 52, Mr. John Binns, of Leeds, an extensive bookseller, and one of the proprietors of the Leeds Mercury. Mr. Binns was a tory in politics, and the Mercury, under his management, was a tory paper. He was the son of Mr. Nathaniel Binns, bookseller, of Halifax. He became a partner in the banking-house of Scott, Binns, Nicholson, and Smith, in Leeds. He left his business of a bookseller, to his widow and children, from whom it was purchased some years after by Mr. John Heaton, who used to manage the bookselling department of Mr. Binns' business.——An epitaph in the Leeds parish church to the memory of John Iles, who died 25th May, this year, is as follows:—

“Short was my stay in this frail world,  
All’s but a seeming laughter;  
Therefore, mark well thy words and ways,  
For thou comes posting after.”

Ætatis, sue, 19.

On Sunday, the 29th of May, as Mr. Thoresby was holding a lovefeast in an upper room of a brushmaker’s establishment in Nelson-street, Leeds, the place being filled with his admirers, the beam that supported the floor gave way, and the great bulk of the congregation were precipitated to the ground, bursting through the floor of the second story. On the ground floor was a deep saw-pit, in which no fewer than sixteen women, a man, and a boy, were there found all suffocated. Upwards of thirty others were so dreadfully crushed and bruised, that some of them died soon after. Mr. Thoresby, the preacher, suffered a severe contusion of the right arm.——June 29th. William Wilberforce and the Hon. Henry Lascelles were returned for Yorkshire without opposition. They were also returned at the general election of 1802.——Aug. 8th, died at the age of 93 years, the well-known Christopher Pivett, a carver and gilder of York, who was at the battles of Dettingen, Fontenoy, and Culloden, and some time in the retinue of the duke of Cumberland. In 1746, he settled at York, where soon afterwards his house was burnt down, in consequence of which, he formed the singular resolution of never lying in a bed in future, which he did not during the last 38 years of his life, but slept on the floor, or in a chair with his clothes on, and no person but himself in the house, to which he seldom admitted a visitor.

The Albion chapel, Dickenson’s-court, in Leeds, was opened September 25th, at which time the ritual of the church of England was used. It is a plain brick building. The first minister was the Rev. J. Price. It was afterwards purchased for the use of the Scotch church, and was re-opened by the Rev. R. Jack in 1802, under the inspection of the presbytery of Edinburgh. The Rev. P. Thompson was pastor in 1804. In 1807, after alterations, it was used by the Independents; the late Rev. Dr. R. W. Hamilton was the stated minister up to the opening of Belgrave chapel. The chapel is now used by the Swedenborgians: the Rev. Richard Edleston is minister.——The Plymouth Brethren worship in a large room top of Park-square, east side.——The

1796.-1797.

Mormons, or Latter Day Saints, meet in Cheapside.

The Jews have their Synagogue in Rockingham-street.

Ann Keighley, of Hunslet, died Sept. 21st, aged 100 years. She was mother, grandmother, and great grandmother to 253 children.—Leeds bridge was repaired and widened this year.—A horse, cattle, and swine fair was established at Heckmondwike, to be held annually, on the first Monday in April and November.

The Wakefield volunteers addressed his majesty with an offer to serve him in any part of the kingdom, and the loyal example was soon followed by the other volunteer corps of Yorkshire.—On Oct. 16th, about six o'clock in the morning, the inhabitants of Ripon were greatly alarmed by a violent earthquake, which shook almost every house in the town; a mile from which, near Littlethorpe, about three roods of ground sunk nineteen fathoms, and a large ash tree, growing on the spot, entirely disappeared. For some time the gulph continued to increase, and an immense body of water issued from it, which filled the inhabitants with fear, for as there were no coal pits in the neighbourhood, it was evidently a great natural convulsion.

Arthur Young, in his annals of agriculture, gives a curious picture of the state of machinery in the cloth manufacture in Leeds, in 1796. He informs us that in that year Leeds had six or seven steam engines for mills, and one for a dying-house. Spinners in Leeds earned about tenpence per day, some of them a shilling. Croppers, shearmen, and knappers earned from a guinea to thirty shillings per week; and he adds, "the machines which have done so much for the cotton trade are fast introducing here." At the same time weavers in cottages earned generally 12s. a week, and some of them so low as nine shillings.

1797. Feb. 16th. Sir J. Jervis defeated the Spanish fleet off Cape St. Vincent.—Owing to the threatened invasion of Britain by France, which was the all-absorbing topic in England at this time, the credit of the Bank of England was shaken; a *run* was made upon it for gold in exchange for its notes, which it could not meet. On the 25th of February, 1797, therefore, the bank was obliged, with the sanction of the privy council, to suspend cash payments, that is, to refuse giving coin for the paper money which had been issued. This step led to a great depreciation in the value of Bank of England notes; and was followed by a very

1797.

serious derangement of the currency for a number of years.—On the 3rd of March, this year, an act was passed, authorising the issue of notes under £5, and by the 10th of the same month notes for £1. and £2. were ready for delivery. These notes were rough and even rude in their execution. Easily imitated, they were also easily circulated, and from 1797 the executions for forgery greatly increased. During six years prior to their issue, there was but one capital conviction; during the four following years 85 occurred.—An invasion being at this time expected, three regiments of supplementary militia with local volunteers, provisional cavalry, &c., were raised in the West-Riding.

April 19th. Thirteen men and boys were killed by an explosion of "fire damp," in one of the coal mines, at Rothwell Haigh; amongst the sufferers, were a father and four sons.—In consequence of an additional stamp duty, the price of the Leeds newspapers was raised from 4d. to 6d. on July 10th.—During the night of Nov. 20th, there was a most outrageous riot at Beeston, and a numerous body of workmen indulged their enmity towards machinery, by completely destroying a mill used for "raising cloth," by Messrs. Johnson, of Holbeck. None of the rioters could afterwards be identified, as the night was dark, and they would not permit lights to be brought to the spot.—In opening a quarry, at Rastrick, near Huddersfield, were found about twenty urns, from four to fifteen inches in diameter, containing ashes and fragments of burnt human bones, supposed to be Roman. The large urns were three feet, and the small ones 1½ feet below the surface, and they were surrounded by a black substance, supposed to be the remains of the fires in which the bodies had been burnt. Some of the urns were curiously ornamented, but most of them fell to pieces before they could be got out of the earth. One of them was inverted, and the bones it contained were much better preserved than those found in the others.—March 15th. Died Mrs. Pope, a celebrated actress, aged 52,

July 9th. That great orator and statesman, Edmund Burke, aged 69.

July 25th. Admiral Nelson lost his right arm by a cannon ball, in an unsuccessful attack on the Isle of Teneriffe.

Oct 11th. Admiral Duncan with sixteen sail of the line, after a most gallant action, defeated the Dutch Admiral de Winter, who had sixteen sail of the line, and five frigates; ten sail of the line and two frigates were captured, and but

1797.

for the circumstance of the Dutch fleet being so near their own coast (5 miles) the whole must have fallen into the hands of the British Admiral, who was soon after created baron Duncan and viscount *Camperdown*, the name by which the battle was designated. At this time there were great rejoicings at Leeds and other places, and subscriptions opened for the relief of the widows and children of those who fell in the engagement.

Nov. 15th, died the Rev. Joseph Milner. He was born in the neighbourhood of Leeds, January 2nd, in 1744, and was the son of a poor weaver. He was educated at the Leeds grammar school; where he made great proficiency in Greek and Latin. At the age of 18 he was appointed to the office of chapel clerk, at Catherine Hall, Cambridge, where he took his bachelor's degree in 1765 and obtained one of the chancellor's medals. He afterwards became head master of the grammar school at Hull, worth £200 a year; was soon after chosen afternoon lecturer in the principal church in that town. On obtaining this situation he sent for his mother (then living at Leeds in poverty) to Hull, where she became the manager of his house. He also sent for two poor orphans, the children of his eldest brother. He also removed his brother Isaac from Leeds where he was humbly employed in a woollen manufactory, and made him his assistant. This brother, afterwards became master of queen's college, Cambridge, professor of mathematics and dean of Carlisle (See date 1820.) He was presented to the vicarage of north Ferraby, and latterly to that of Holy Trinity church, in Hull. The published works of Joseph were "some passages in the life of William Howard." "A History of the Church of Christ," &c.

Nov. 16th, died Frederick William II., king of Prussia, and was succeeded by his son, Frederick William III.

In this year about seventy delegates, from all parts of the kingdom, met the Wesleyan conference at Leeds, and proposed that in future the annual conference should consist of "an equal number of preachers and representatives of the people," to be chosen by them. This proposition being rejected by the conference, the Methodist New Connexion was formed, chiefly by the talents and zeal of Mr. Alexander Kilham, a distinguished preacher, from whom they were sometimes called Kilhamites. At its formation, it embraced only seven preachers, seven circuits, and 500 members, very widely scattered, and having but few chapels; but they so far succeeded, that in fourteen years after their establishment, they had 23 circuits, 101 chapels, 207

1797.-1798.

societies, and 8,292 members; and 44 itinerant, and 229 local preachers. In 1829, they had 162 chapels, 59 circuits, and 492 local preachers, who ministered to 11,777 members.

Dec. 19th. A national thanksgiving was observed for the three great naval victories of Admirals Howe, St. Vincent, and Duncan.——On the 26th of Dec., aged 73 years, died that distinguished chamberlain and alderman of London, John Wilks, Esq., author of a patriotic article in No. 45, of the north Briton, for which he suffered imprisonment.

1798. In January, the new church at Halifax was consecrated by the learned Dr. Watson, bishop of Landaff.

The corporation of Leeds subscribed £500 in aid of the supplies requisite for the defence of the kingdom, and transmitted it to the cashier of the Bank of England, with an order for it to be entered in the books in the following terms:—"The corporation of Leeds, having no property or income whatever, save the interest of £1,800, arising from fees of admission, and fines paid by those refusing to serve, Five Hundred Pounds." J. Smyth, Esq. of Heath, near Wakefield, subscribed £1,000 for the same purpose, and Sir R. B. Johnstone, bart. most liberally subscribed £1,000 annually during the continuance of the war. These examples were followed by many large towns and opulent individuals. The earls of Harewood and Carlisle each gave £4,000, and the Bank of England £200,000.——The duke of Norfolk, for toasting at a whig club, in London, "*The Majesty of the People*" was dismissed from the lord lieutenancy of the West-Riding, which was given to earl Fitzwilliam.

A new peal of *ten* bells at the Leeds parish church was opened February 5th, by the Ashton-under-Lyne ringers.

A piece of ground on Headingley-moor, containing about one acre, was enclosed, (1798) with the consent of the lord of the manor and freeholders, and vested in trustees, as a provision for a schoolmaster, to teach six poor children.

Thomas Maude was born, it is said, at Harewood. near Leeds, in 1717; while another account—though less certain—gives Westminster the credit of his birth. Brought up to the medical profession, and was surgeon on board the *Barfleur*, with captain lord Harry Powlett. Afterwards he became steward for the estates of the duke of Bolton, and resided chiefly at his grace's seat, Bolton hall, in Wensleydale. Published "*Wensleydale, or Rural Contemplations*;" and other poems. Died in 1798.

In this year Messrs. Rambotham, Swaine, and Murgatroyd, of Bradford, erected the first mill wrought by steam, in the "Holme." The engine which supplied the



1798.

propelling force was of fifteen horses' power. Mr. James, in his history of Bradford states, that at this time strong prejudice existed in the minds of the inhabitants, even the respectable portion of them, against factories. A man had commenced conveying stones for the building of the mill, when a large number of the inhabitants assembled to prevent his proceeding to the site of it, and laid hold of the horse's head. One of the partners, being a man of considerable prowess, stripped his coat, and literally boxed the way clear; and the persons who had assembled to stop the work, seeing his determination, and probably remembering the unlawfulness of their conduct, allowed the horse and cart to proceed. Under such discouraging circumstances was the first of those structures built which have raised Bradford to its present importance among the towns of England.

Very soon after Rambotham and Swaine's mill was at work, other mills were erected in or near the town. It seems that an attempt was at that period made to introduce the cotton manufacture here; and one mill, (at least), which is now used in the worsted business, was, early in the present century, built for the spinning of cotton. This branch of manufactures was not, however, long carried on here.

The progress of the worsted manufacture in Bradford, has been as rapid and as unexampled as that of its population. In 1800, according to the census, 1290 persons were employed in Bradford, in trade or manufactures. In 1811, 1595 families were so employed; in 1821, 2452 families; in 1831, 3867, besides 1605 labourers. In 1819, the number of horses' power employed in propelling the machinery of worsted mills in Bradford and its immediate neighbourhood, was about 492; in 1830, 1047; and in 1840, upwards of 2000.

In April, an armed association was formed at Leeds, by persons who found their own accoutrements, and served without pay. Each company had a captain and two lieutenants.—In May, aged 73, died William Mason, an eminent Yorkshire poet, and the friend and biographer of Gray. He was born in 1725. His father was vicar of St. Trinity hall, in the East-Riding. In 1742, young Mason entered St. John's college, Cambridge, where he took his bachelor's degree in 1745. In 1749 he was chosen a Fellow of Pembroke college, and took his master's degree two years after. In 1754 he took orders, and in 1756 he received the living of Aston, in Yorkshire. In 1762 he

1798.

was preferred to the canonry of York, the prebend of Driffild, and the precentorship of York minster. Besides his skill in poetry and gardening, he was a considerable proficient in painting, and a respectable amateur in music. Mason cannot be classed with the great poets, yet for many years of his life he was England's *greatest* living poet.

After a thunder storm and heavy fall of rain, on June 6th, the river Aire rose two yards in half an hour; by the lightning a boy was killed at Wibsey, and a barn destroyed at Yeadon.——Mr. John Swire, of Halifax, unfortunately perished in the snow whilst attempting to cross Knaresborough forest on horseback, in February, when several other travellers lost their lives by exposing themselves to the severity of the weather.——In June, the militia volunteered their services to Ireland, amongst whom were the 1st West York regiment, who, on the 5th of April, embarked for that ill-fated and injured country, where rebellion existed in all its horrors, and where the insurgents were expected to be soon joined by the French.

The canal from Sowerby bridge to Rochdale was opened December 21st.——March 30th. The whole kingdom of Ireland was put under martial law.——April 3rd. The duke of York was appointed commander-in-chief of all his majesty's land forces in the kingdom of Great Britain.

April 21st. A bill passed on the 20th for the suspension of the Habeas Corpus Act, this day received the royal assent.——May 6th. Sir Sidney Smith arrived in London from Paris, having made his escape after a confinement of upwards of two years, in the prison of the temple.

May 9th. Geo. III. struck out the name of Mr. Fox from the list of privy councillors.——May 23rd. Lady Edward Fitzgerald, relict of lord Edward Fitzgerald, (who had expired on the 19th, in consequence of wounds he had received in a desperate struggle with the police officers of Dublin, in their attempt to arrest his lordship on a charge of high treason), was ordered to quit the British dominions: she was the celebrated Pamela, and daughter of the duke of Orleans.——May 25th. Sunday, in consequence of a previous dispute in the House of Commons between Mr. Pitt and Mr. Tierney, a duel was fought by those two great politicians; two cases of pistols were discharged without effect, and as Mr. Pitt fired his last pistol in the air, the matter was accomodated by the seconds.——At this time the spirit of military ardour wholly pervaded Great Britain, and all ranks

1798 -1799.

eagerly formed themselves into volunteer corps for the defence of the country.

The canal from Sowerby bridge to Rochdale, was opened December 21st.——August 1st was fought the ever memorable battle of the Nile, for the services of which day admiral Nelson had the dignity of baron of Great Britain conferred on him, by his majesty George III., with a pension of £3,000 a year. Early in October there were illuminations in all the principal towns of the county in honour of this victory, and liberal subscriptions were opened for the relief of the widows and orphans of the brave seamen who were killed in the action.

1799. There are monuments in the Leeds parish church, "To the memory of John Pate Neville, lieutenant in the third regiment of foot guards, who was wounded in Holland, in an engagement against the French, September 19th, of which wound he died October 10th, 1799"; also, "To the memory of Brownlow Pate Neville, lieutenant in the third regiment of foot guards, who was likewise wounded in Holland, September 10th, and died September 16th, 1799, aged 23 years." There is one to the brother of the above, who was killed five years before, with an inscription as follows:—"Sacred to the memory of Charles Henry Neville, lieutenant in the queen's, or second regiment of foot, who, being on the marine duty on board earl Howe's ship, after behaving in a most brave and gallant manner in the engagement which took place between the English and French fleets for three days, was killed by a grape shot, June the 1st, 1794, aged 19 years."

"Ye sons of peace, who blest  
With all the dear delights of social life,  
Behold this Tablet,  
Which affection reared,  
To the lov'd memory of the young, the brave;  
Whose early bloom, smote by the ruthless hand of war,  
Fell, admired, lamented:  
Oh! give one pitying tear,  
In grateful memory of the generous youth,  
Who dauntless met the dreadful battle's rage,  
And nobly bled,  
That you might live secure."

The large centre building of the extensive woollen manufactory of Messrs. Wormald, Fountain, and Gott, at Bean-Ing, near Leeds, was destroyed by fire August 11th: five days after which the river Aire overflowed its banks,

and did much damage in the adjacent buildings and the hay and corn fields. The weather was for some time wild and tempestuous.——Several mills and houses near Holmfirth and Huddersfield were swept away by the floods, but this was trifling compared with the devastation in Lancashire and Cheshire, where numerous bridges and mills were washed down, and one person lost 800 pieces of finished goods.——On November 16th, Mr. Graham's extensive corn, oil, and scribbling mills, at Kirkstall, were destroyed by fire.——Great distress prevailed, and subscription soup kitchens were opened in nearly all the large towns in the kingdom, for the purpose of supplying the poor at 1d. per quart, but this was not sufficient to allay the craving appetites of the Huddersfield workmen, who assembled in riot on the 19th of November, and seized all the corn in the market, and sold it at their own prices.——On July 2nd, died, in his 80th year, the Rev. Thomas Morgan, who was incumbent of the Presbyterian chapel, at Morley, near Leeds, during thirty-six years, and distinguished himself for learning and piety by his excellent sermons, by his writings in the gentleman's magazine, and by his able reply to the doctrines of the Trinity and Atonement, advocated by Dr. Priestley. His immediate predecessor was the Rev. Mr. Aldred, who held the living fifty-four years, and during that long period was not once prevented by illness from discharging his ministerial duties. Mr. Aldred's predecessor was the Rev. Joseph Dawson, who was ejected from Thornton chapel, under the act of uniformity, and appointed to Morley chapel in 1688.——A school of industry was established this year in Beeson's-yard, Leeds, which yard was situate in the position of the present Market-street.

August 5th, died the Rt. Hon. Earl Howe, who so gloriously distinguished himself in the naval engagement of June 1st, 1794.——Salem chapel, at Wakefield, was built this year.——Nov. 26th, died, aged 71, Dr. Joseph Black, professor of chemistry in the university of Edinburgh. He was the discoverer of the air balloon nearly fifteen years before the idea suggested itself to M. Montgolfier, to whom the invention is generally attributed.

Dec. 14th, died, aged 68, general Washington, at Mount Vernon, America.——David Simpson, a clergyman noted for his writings, was born near North-Allerton, in Yorkshire, 1745. His father was a farmer, and David was intended for the same pursuit, but he was desirous of entering

1799.-1800.

the church, and went to study at Cambridge. Here he became acquainted with Robert Robinson, the Baptist minister, and imbibed principles of dissent, which troubled his whole life by struggles between his interest and his convictions. He never attained any eminence in the church; indeed, his preaching was such that he was obliged to leave two or three situations. He at last settled at Macclesfield, in Cheshire, where he died in 1799. He had previously determined, as his manuscripts show, on leaving the establishment, but he did not live to carry out his resolution. His principal works are, an "Essay on the authenticity of the New Testament," "A Key to the Prophecies," "A Plea for the Diety of Jesus Christ, and the Doctrine of the Trinity," and a "Plea for Religion and the Sacred Writings."——The scarcity of corn in Bradford was even greater in this and the following year than in 1796; and work being also scarce, the distress in this town was very severe. Wheat sold for 17s. a bushel; and the poorer class of inhabitants lived principally on barley, bean, and pea meal, of which only a scanty supply could be obtained. It was a season of distress which is yet well remembered by many.

A very severe and long winter, with deep snow, when a great number of sheep and lambs were destroyed by the frost.——The Barnsley canal was opened June 15th.

1800. Some few readers of the 'Annals' will be able to remember what was the condition of Leeds at the beginning of the 19th century; how groves, green lanes, and fields have been replaced by warehouses, mills, factories, foundries, railway stations, houses, &c. It has already been seen that Leeds, as mentioned in doomsday book, was restricted to Briggate, Kirkgate, and Swinegate. The mud and wattled houses, roofed with thatch, which formed the early dwellings of the inhabitants, gave place to timber houses, one of which, named *Rockley hall*, in Lowerhead-row, the residence of an opulent family, was existing down to the beginning of the present century. It was built entirely of timber, and was of a very antique form, consisting of a centre and two wings, with a pointed door-way at the lower end of the central part. Instead of deals, or boards, the floors were oak planks, of so considerable a thickness, that joists were subsequently made of them. These timber houses were succeeded by another class of houses built of a perishable argillaceous kind of stone found in the neighbourhood. Then followed brick houses, the first of which built in Leeds, (1628) is known as the *Red hall*, in Upper-

1800.

head-row. Most of the old buildings in the town have been replaced by larger and more elegant ones. In Briggate, and other parts of the town, a few old houses may yet be seen; but they are scarcely noticed except by the curious.

*Austhorpe Hall*, near the Friends' meeting-house, near Meadow-lane, is an ancient building, built of timber and plastered on the outside. It originally belonged to a family of the name of Austhorpe, and afterwards to a Scotch family named Douglas, "Annys Fearn, wyfe of Myles Douglass, was buried 3rd September, 1578," as we learn from the parish register. To the west of Austhorpe hall, is another ancient house, now completely surrounded with buildings, which seems to have been the Water hall of Thoresby.

*Ingram's Hall*, at the end of Bow-street, is a very old house. Whitaker styles it "Hill House, Bank, where is a fair large house built by *Mr. William Ingram*." There is a tradition that this house was built by one of the Ingram's of Templenewsam; but the Ingram who built it was not at all related to the family at Templenewsam, and, of course, the many other traditions founded on this supposition are void of truth. Richard Hutchinson, Esq., of Astley, is the present proprietor.——*Knostrop* is remarkable for a very ancient hall with castellated turrets; in front of the court are two antique stone chairs. Early in the 17th century, the hall was in the possession of John Stables, one of the first of the people called quakers, who converted part of the orchard beside the hall into a burying ground, where some stones with inscriptions may yet be seen. Whitaker says that "Knowsthorpe hall contains perhaps the latest specimen of a dais or raised step for the high table which is to be found in England."——In North-hall-street, West-end there is an ancient building known as *North hall*, which was once an important place, as being in the centre of North hall gardens. This house is thus alluded to by Whitaker, "Mr. George Bannister, sen., first town clerk of Leeds, purchased the North hall wood estate of alderman Hillary, the benefactor, who built the first house here in the time of Charles I. The population of the parish of Leeds in 1801 was 53,162, in 1851, 172,270. Vast changes must have taken place to meet the requirements of this increase of population. The number of inhabited houses in 1801 was 6,694, and in 1851, 36,165. A survey of Leeds made at the beginning of the present century is highly interesting, as showing the appearance of the town at that time. *Park-place* is described as a very elegant range of buildings, with a south

1800.

aspect, and which commands a very pleasing view of the country, particularly of the river Aire. A footpath, the entrance to which was near where Lupton's warehouse is in Wellington-street, passed through pleasant fields to Burley. The road on the north side of Park-place was not then made. The Infirmary, with the Mixed Cloth Hall, formed one side of a very extensive square, the west of which was East-parade; the north, South-parade; and the east, Park-row: the area of the square was partly laid out in gardens and partly used as tenter ground. *Woodhouse lane*, from its elevated situation, and the fine prospect it afforded of Aire-dale, had become a favourite place for building on, especially genteel detached houses, of which there were many between Leeds and Woodhouse. The situation of St. James's-street, Woodhouse-lane, is described as extremely pleasant, and from its elevation, the air of it is remarkably salutary and bracing, from which circumstance, it was preferred by invalids to any part of the town, and, of course, buildings in it were in great request. The space from Park-lane to Woodhouse moor was pleasant fields. The whole distance between Scarbro's hotel and Gott's factory, was fields, gardens, &c. Near to Gott's factory was a place called Monk pits, and on the site of the factory, (which was built before the 19th century), was *Bene Ing*, or *Bean Ing*. *Bene* signifies prayers, *Ing*, field; that is, the field of prayers. In every part of the town there has been the same rapid accumulation of buildings. Nearly the whole of the West-end, Armley hall, New Wortley, Camp field, Brewery field, a vast part of Hunslet and Holbeck and at the east end of the town, the Leylands, &c., have been built since the year 1800. The subject might be pursued further, but sufficient has been said to call to the minds of readers the changes that have taken place. Aged people, especially, can communicate much interesting and valuable information as to the past condition of the town of Leeds.

The year 1800 was not a leap year although divisible by four. (see 1751.)——The diet of the working classes at this time was quite different from what it is now. It was customary at the winter fair to purchase beef for the purpose of being salted and hung for winter food. The broth and rashers which these afforded, with oat cakes, or hard wheaten bread, were a perpetual repast. Frumenty, also, in the winter time was much eaten.——A large subscription was raised in January by the inhabitants of Leeds, to relieve the distress of the labouring poor at that place, occasioned by the high price of provisions.——A scribbling



mill at Holbeck was destroyed by fire.——About 150 vessels were wrecked on the northern coast, where nearly 1,000 persons perished in the deep.——In February, wheat sold in Leeds at from 10s. to 17s. per bushel, according to quality, which varied much owing to the wet harvest of the preceding year.——The price of mutton was 2d. per pound higher in April than it had ever been before, but to reduce it, by making it more plentiful, the inhabitants of Leeds determined not to eat lamb for three months.

On May 6th, the Leeds market was disturbed by a great riot, caused by the high price of wheat, which in July rose to from 42s. to 50s. per load of three bushels, or from 14s. to 16s. 8d. per bushel.——Numerous petitions were sent to parliament by the woollen manufacturers, praying “that the exportation of wool to Ireland may not, on any account, be permitted.”——This year Wheeler Medhurst, Esq., of Kippax, murdered his wife in a fit of insanity, and was afterwards confined for some years.

On October 2nd, died, Harry Rowe, a well known character of York, who was trumpeter in the duke of Kingston’s light horse, at the battle of Culloden, in 1746, and attended the high sheriff’s of Yorkshire as trumpeter at the assizes during 46 years. He travelled in various parts of the kingdom with a puppet show, and died in the workhouse of his native city, at the age of 75 years.

At the Otley sessions, in October, three great forestallers were tried and punished, viz.: David Oliver, of Lindley, and Thomas Wall, of Addingham, for forestalling wheat and shelling, each fined £20; and Samuel Wignall, of Keighley, “for engrossing butter,” imprisoned one month at Wakefield and fined £40.——The Quakers, in an advertisement in the Leeds papers, declared their abhorrence of adding to the high price of provisions by “forestalling and regrating in the markets, and that they would discountenance any of their society who should be guilty of such nefarious practices;” for the suppression of which the law is but too seldom called into action.

Messrs. Williamson and Evers’ corn mills, at Keighley, were burnt down November 17th.——The inhabitants of Leeds bound themselves in an association in December, not to consume in their respective families more bread than one quartern loaf (4 lbs.) per head in each week, till the 1st of September following, or until the average price of wheat should be 10s. per bushel.——Messrs. Chaster, Wilson, and Co.’s scribbling mill, at Dewsbury, was destroyed by fire December 11th.——About this time Mr.

1800.

James Dufton found, in a field at Bramley-town-end, near Leeds, a halfpenny, inscribed on one side "*Francis Conyers, of Middleton, in Yorkshire, 1669*": and on the reverse, "*for the use of ye. coal pits.*"——The organ of St. Paul's church, Leeds, was erected this year by subscription.

In 1800, the Airedale Independent college, for educating young men for the Independent ministry, was founded at Idle; and endowed in 1803, by a bequest of Edward Hanson, Esq., with £5000 three per cent. consols. Mrs. Bacon, of Bradford, in 1829, gave two estates at Fagley and Undercliffe to increase the endowment. The germ of this institution was an academy at Heckmondwike, formed for a similar purpose in 1756. In the year 1783 the academy was removed to Northowram. The premises at Idle having become too small for the increase of students, a subscription was entered into by the supporters of the institution, for the purpose of erecting the present college at Undercliffe, which was designed by Mr. Clark. The erection of it began in 1831. It is a large and well designed and convenient stone building, ornamented with a portico, and has accommodation for twenty students. Owing to its elevated site it has a very imposing appearance. The Rev. William Vint was the tutor during all the time the institution continued at Idle, which was removed in 1834; but he died soon after its removal, and was succeeded by the Rev. Walter Scott. The institution is now under the superintendence of the Rev. Dr. Fraser. The yearly income arising from the endowment and other sources is about £900. A chapel was, in connection with the college, erected in 1839, in High-street. It is a very handsome structure, and from its elevated and towering position, forms a strong feature in the appearance of the town. The cost of its erection, which was defrayed by subscription, was near £3000. There are in it 800 sittings. The Rev. Dr. Fraser is the pastor.

Died, aged 69, William Cowper, Esq., the celebrated poet.——Sept. 5th. The island of Malta surrendered to the British, after a blockade of two years; as did also the Dutch island of Curacoa, in the West Indies, on the 11th of September.——Dec. The quartern loaf in London was at this time 1s. 10½d.; and the average price of wheat was 133s. per quarter.——In the course of this month several bills brought into parliament in consequence of the scarcity and high price of provisions, were, by the royal sanction, passed into laws, viz.: a bill for allowing bounties on the importation of various kinds of provisions;

1800.

to prohibit the use of grain in the distillation of spirits and the manufacture of starch; and to prohibit bakers selling any bread until the same shall have been baked twenty-four hours. A bill also passed prohibiting the manufacture of flour or meal from wheat or any other grain, finer than a specified standard, commonly called the brown bread bill, but this last was speedily repealed.

Dec. 31st. From the army returns presented to the House of Commons, by the secretary of war, it appeared that the number of men raised for the army since the commencement of the war, was 208,838. The number of men discharged on account of wounds, was 75,910, but this also included those who had been transferred from one regiment to another. The number of men killed in action, or who died in the service, was 48,971, and the number of effective men, including invalids, militia, and foreign corps in the pay of Great Britain, on the 24th Dec., was 168,082.——The progress of machinery may be estimated by the evidence of Mr. Gott, before parliament in 1800. He then stated that fifteen years previously, it would have required 1,634 persons to do that which was then done by thirty-five individuals in a week. Of course he was speaking of the process of scribbling and spinning. He further stated that the average of wages in the woollen manufactory, at that time, was as follows:—men could earn from sixteen to eighteen shillings per week; children could earn three shillings per week; older children, viz., from fourteen to eighteen years of age, from five to six shillings per week; women could earn from five to six shillings per week; and old men from nine to twelve shillings per week.

Newcome Cappe, a dissenting divine, was born at Leeds, in 1732. He was educated under Dr. Doddridge, at Northampton, and finished his studies at Glasgow; after which, he became minister of a congregation at York, where he died in 1800.——Jesse Ramsden, an optician, was born at Halifax, in 1735, and served his apprenticeship to a hot-presser; after which he went to London and studied engraving. He next became a mathematical instrument maker in Piccadilly, and, by marrying a daughter of Dolland, improved his knowledge in that profession. Among other discoveries, he made an accurate division of instruments, which procured him a premium from the board of longitude. He died at Brighton, in 1800.——At this time Bradford had a

1800.-1801.

population of 6,300. — May 15th. His majesty George III. narrowly escaped assassination, a pistol having been fired at him as he sat in the royal box at Drury-lane theatre, by a maniac named Hatfield, who was confined for life. — Pantaloon, which fitted closely to the leg, were in very common use at this time, and remained so until the year 1814, when the wearing of trousers, already introduced into the army, became fashionable. Although trousers were generally worn after 1815, many elderly persons still held out in knee-breeches against all innovations, and till the present day, (1859) an aged gentleman may occasionally be seen clinging to this eighteenth century piece of dress. When trousers were introduced, the use of Wellington boots to go beneath them also became common. Black neck-cloths, or stocks, (instead of white), and the surtout, came into vogue about the same time as the boots.

1801. January 5th. Wheat sold at from 52s. to 56s. a load.

20,000 of the inhabitants of Leeds petitioned for peace, and the wealthiest subscribed to supply the poor at reduced prices with soup, rice, and herrings. — On March 7th, the late Mr. Edward Baines became proprietor of the Leeds Mercury. — A storm of thunder and lightning on July 31st, killed William Sage, of Almondbury, near Huddersfield, whilst sheltering under a tree, and by the compression of a cloud inundated the first floors of many buildings at Aberford and Parlington hall.

Many nocturnal meetings were held at Hartshead moor, and other places in the West-Riding, by the disaffected. — In July, the price of wheat was reduced from £8 to £3 10s. per quarter. — Leeds was brilliantly illuminated in October, in consequence of the ratification of peace between Great Britain and France. — October 13th, died Samuel Predam, of Leeds, aged 23, late lieutenant of his majesty's 54th regiment of foot, who was shot through the body on the 25th of August, near the gates of Alexandria, in Egypt, where he displayed the active zeal, the intrepid gallantry, and the invincible spirit and courage of a true British soldier. A monument in the Leeds parish church has an inscription as follows:—"In memory of Samuel Predham, of this town, late lieutenant of his majesty's 54th regiment of foot. This monument is erected by his most affectionate and disconsolate mother on the loss of her only son. In the memorable expedition to Egypt he bore a distinguished part, and displayed on all

occasions the active zeal, the intrepid gallantry, and the invincible spirit and courage of a true British officer. He was shot through the body, the 25th of August, 1801, near the gates of Alexandria."

"But like the immortal Abercrombie,  
He refused to quit his post  
So long as he could stand.

His death, which ensued the 13th Oct. following,  
At the age of twenty-eight years,  
To his friends was most affecting,  
To himself it was glorious  
As his life had been honourable."

In December, an epidemic fever raged in Leeds, and amongst its numerous victims were two young surgeons. This malady produced one beneficial effect on William Atha, a pauper lunatic, in Holbeck workhouse, for it left him in the possession of his reason, of which he had been bereft upwards of two years, during which he frequently wandered about Leeds in old regimentals, making political harangues in the streets against Mr. Pitt, who, he said, ought to be hanged for ruining the country.—Jan. 1. The union between England and Ireland took place. The king was now styled of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, king, defender of the faith, &c. The arms or ensigns, armorial, of the United Kingdom, were quarterly, first and fourth, England; second, Scotland; third, Ireland. By the articles of union, 100 commoners were to be representatives of Ireland in the imperial parliament, two for each county, two for each of the cities of Dublin and Cork, one for the university, and one for each of the thirty-one most considerable cities and towns. As a compensation to the owners of disfranchised boroughs, the sum of £15,000 was allowed to each. To represent the Irish peerage, twenty-eight lords temporal elected for life, were allotted, and four bishops to represent the clergy, taking their places in rotation.—The planet, Ceres, was discovered by Piazzini, an Italian astronomer.—Jan. 22nd. The imperial parliament assembled for the first time.—Died, in the 60th year of his age, at Berne, Switzerland, John Caspar Lavater, the celebrated physiognomist; also Sir George Staunton, secretary to the earl of Macartney in his embassy to China, and the person who published the interesting account of that embassy.

Feb. 23rd. The British armament, under the command

1801.-1802.

of lord Keith, consisting of 175 sail, having on board an army of 15,330 men, commanded by the brave Sir Ralph Abercrombie, and destined for the recovery of Egypt, sailed from Minorca bay, on the coast of Caramania, and, after a boisterous passage, arrived in Aboukir bay, on the 2nd. of March.—Feb. Average price of wheat 145s. per quarter.

Stephen Barrett was born at Kildwick, in 1718, and received his education at the school of Skipton, from whence he removed to Oxford, where he took his degree in arts, and entered into orders. For many years he was master of the grammar school at Ashford, in Kent, which he resigned in 1773, on being preferred to the rectory of Hothfield in the same county, where he died in 1801.

April 22nd. Battle of Copenhagen—when lord Nelson took, sunk, and burnt 17 sail of Danish ships and batteries.

Sir H. B. Hayes tried at Cork, for forcibly carrying off Miss Pike, a rich Quaker heiress; he was found guilty, and sentenced to be hanged, but was reprieved for transportation.—May 4th. A new writ issued by the speaker of the House of Commons for a member for Old Sarum, in the room of Rev. J. Horne Tooke.

On May 6th a bill was introduced into the House to declare persons in holy orders incapable to sit, which afterwards passed into a law.—Sept. 2nd. The French garrison of Alexandria of 8000 soldiers and 1300 seamen surrendered to the British; the glorious campaign in Egypt terminated with the fall of Alexandria; of the whole of the French troops landed in Egypt at various periods during its occupation by them, only 24,000 returned to their native country.—Oct. 1st. Preliminaries of peace were signed in London by lord Hawkesbury, (afterwards earl of Liverpool) on the part of Britain, and M. Otto, on the part of the French republic.—Marquis Cornwallis was appointed ambassador to the French republic.

1802. On January 4th, Messrs. Crowther and Hirst's scribbling mill, at Morley, near Leeds, was destroyed by fire, with a great quantity of wool.—March 2nd, died Francis, duke of Bedford, deeply regretted by the British nation.—A rail-road from Leeds to Selby was strongly recommended by "Mercator," in the Leeds Mercury of Jan. 16.—Richard Trevithick took out a patent this year for a locomotive steam-engine, which ran in the Merthyr tramway, and drew a load of ten tons at the rate of five miles an hour. Slight ridges were left in the edge of

1802.

the wheels, and on the trams, to prevent their slipping round, and to insure a forward movement. That without this precaution there could be no adhesion or advance, was an idea that long prevailed. The following paragraph appeared in the Leeds Mercury, Aug. 21st, 1802:—

“IRON RAILWAYS.—Richard Lovell Edgeworth, Esq., so well known as an author, has published an essay on railroads, of which he claims the invention. He states that in 1768 he presented models to the Society of Arts, for which he received their gold medal.

“He recommends an experiment to be made, which shall demonstrate their advantages beyond the possibility of doubt or cavil. He proposes four iron railways to be laid on one of the great roads out of London, two of them for carts and waggons, and two for light carriages. To accommodate coaches and chaises he would have cradles or platforms with wheels adapted to the railway, on to one of which each carriage would drive up an inclined plane erected at the end of the road for that purpose. The carriage would then be drawn, not upon its own wheels, but upon the wheels of the platform or cradle.

“He calculates that a stage coach, with six inside and six outside passengers, would travel at the rate of six miles an hour with one horse. Gentlemen's carriages with two horses would go at the rate of twelve or fifteen miles an hour; and if a railway were laid from London to Edinburgh, the mail coach would go in thirty hours. Even at this great speed the most timid female might trust her delicate frame with most perfect security, for the carriage could not possibly be overturned. Any obstruction from hills would easily be overcome. Mr. Edgeworth proposes to plant a steam-engine at the top of every hill, which would move forward the carriages by a chain, to which they would be connected or detached from at pleasure.”—*Leeds Mercury*, August 21, 1802.

On the 20th of January a violent storm of wind unroofed several houses, and threw down many stacks of chimneys in Leeds and the neighbourhood. The Mail was blown over near Halifax, and many accidents happened elsewhere.

The cotton and corn mill at Blackshaw head, near Halifax, was entirely consumed by fire on March 3rd.

The town of Sheffield was visited by a terrific storm of wind in January, 1802, and a sheet of lead, weighing 2,000 lbs., was precipitated into the yard of the Tontine, and fell on the very spot where only a minute or two before the Doncaster mail had stood.—March 27th. The definite treaty of peace was signed at Amiens, between Great Britain, France, Spain, and Holland, when general illuminations took place in all parts of the United Kingdom.—The Halifax volunteers were disembodied May 13th, and the Leeds, Wakefield, and Otley volunteers



1802.

on June 1st, which was a day of general thanksgiving for the restoration of peace, when the colours of the late volunteer corps at Leeds were deposited in the parish church.——On the 5th of May, this year, another vote of thanks was passed by the Leeds corporation to the volunteer corps of cavalry and infantry. A dinner was also given in the Music hall, on the 29th of the same month, at a cost of £265. 7s., and at which 330 persons were present. At a court held in the following year, two pairs of colours were ordered to be purchased and presented to the said corps, which was done on the moor at Chapel-Allerton, in the presence of the mayor, recorder, and corporation, together with a great number of other influential persons. The cost of the colours amounted to £61. 8s. 4d.——The roof of a new mill at Austonley, near Holmfirth, fell in, and killed three persons, and dreadfully bruised several others, on November 6th, and three days after, the stacks and outbuildings of the Hagg farm, in the same neighbourhood, were destroyed by fire, supposed by an incendiary.

The House of Recovery, in Vicar-lane Leeds, was founded by subscription, and opened November 1st. It is now used as a dram shop, and is situated opposite the new covered market.

May 6th. A bill for the abolition of bull-baiting was thrown out of the Commons by a majority of 13; some members contending horse racing and hunting were more cruel and immoral amusements than either boxing or bull-baiting, but the former were the amusements of the rich and the latter of the poor!——June 3rd. The parliament voted £10,000 to Dr. Jenner for the discovery of vaccine inoculation. On the same day £1200 was voted to Henry Greathead, ship carpenter, of South Shields, for the invention of the life-boat; and £5000 to Dr. J. C. Smith, for his discovery of the nitrous fumigation for preventing the progress of contagious disorders, first recommended by him in 1795.——This year was completed the new Methodist chapel, situate in Albion-street, a little below Guildford-street, and now occupied as a warehouse by Messrs. Vance. The first stone was laid April 30th.

June. A quantity of silver pennies of William the Conqueror were found in digging the foundation for the new gaol, at York.——Sept. 2nd. Early in the morning of this day Joseph Heald and John Terry committed a most horrid murder on the body of Mrs. Elizabeth Smith, of Flanshaw, near Wakefield. They were found guilty and

1802.-1803.

executed at York, on Monday, March 14th, 1803. Terry conducted himself in the most outrageous manner, and insisted most positively that Heald was innocent. Terry's body was dissected at York, and that of Heald at Leeds.

1803. Feb. 7th. Colonel Despard and nine others were tried in London for high treason; they were all found guilty, and on the 21st, colonel Despard and six others were executed.——May 16th. Great Britain declared war against France, after a peace of one year and sixteen days.

May 22nd. Bonaparte gave orders to seize all the British subjects in France and in all countries occupied by French armies, who were to answer for those citizens of the republic made prisoners by the subjects of his Britannic majesty previous to the declaration of war; upwards of 11,000 persons were said to be arrested in France in consequence of this decree.——June 13th. The chancellor of the exchequer proposed a tax of one shilling in the pound on land, to be paid by the landlord; and ninepence in the pound to be paid by the tenant; and on all other income of one shilling in the pound from £150 and upwards, which afterwards passed into a law.

July 23rd. An insurrection took place in Dublin, at the head of which were Robert Emmett and others; lord Kilwarden, chief justice of Ireland, and his nephew, were murdered in Thomas-street, Dublin, by the insurgents; the insurrection was speedily quelled by the military.

August 15th. Hatfield was found guilty of forgery at Carlisle assizes, and executed 3rd September; he had married a young woman commonly called Mary, "the beauty of Buttermere," to whom, and about Keswick, he had passed himself as the hon. colonel A. Hope, brother to the earl of Hopetoun.——A dreadful storm of hail and wind occurred on July 20th, which unroofed several houses, tore up trees, and broke many windows, the hailstones being some of them three inches in circumference.——In consequence of an act passed, requiring all the male inhabitants, between the ages of 17 and 55 years, to be enrolled for the defence of the kingdom, the lieutenancy, magistracy, and gentry of the county of York, met at Leeds, and resolved to have none but volunteers "to stand forth to meet and resist an enemy, threatening us with invasion and destruction." Subscriptions were immediately opened, and new corps of infantry volunteers formed. The Leeds corps amounted to 2,402 men, and the Huddersfield, including the men of Upper Agbrigg, to upwards of 3,000; those of the

1803.

other towns equally numerous in proportion to their population. A body of volunteers, about one thousand strong, of which John Hardy, Esq., became colonel, was formed at Bradford; the old one having been disbanded. The dress of this body was a scarlet coat turned up with white; white breeches and black leggings, and linen trowsers for changes; black caps with a worsted tuft. It is related by impartial judges, that the Bradford volunteers, in common with most of those in the West-Riding, were as well disciplined as regular troops. The Leeds subscription amounted to £15,000, and the ladies of the borough provided every man with a flannel waistcoat.—The Wakefield and Halifax Journal was established this year.—September 1st. The Manchester college was removed from Manchester to York, where it was placed under the direction of the Rev. Charles Wellbeloved.—In October, Johanna Southcott, the prophetess of Exeter, arrived in Leeds.—In this year there were 1,364 deaths in Leeds, and in the following year only 671. This decrease of mortality was supposed to have been occasioned by the introduction of vaccine inoculation.—On January 15th and 18th, Isabella Holmes and Thomas Wilcock, of Gildersome, were killed in Leeds, by carriages passing over them; and on September 10th, Mr. Thomas Lambert, of Elland, lost his life by a similar accident, at Salterhebble.—The West-Riding militia regiments were embodied March 30th, at Leeds, York, and Doncaster.—An act for regulating the coal trade at Leeds received the royal assent in March.—Messrs. Taylor's cotton mill, at Gomersal, was burnt down April 25th.—John Galloway, a Leeds clockmaker, who spent most of his life in a fruitless endeavour to discover the grand secret of "perpetual motion," died May 8th.—Harry Wormald, Esq., being elected an alderman of Leeds, on June 6th, "paid the customary fine of £400 to be excused."

On July 14th, three divisions of supplementary militia were embodied in the three West York regiments, and on the same day the Leeds cavalry offered their services in any part of Great Britain, in case of invasion. Subscriptions were opened at York, to relieve the poor families of those who were balloted to serve in the army of reserve.—This year died at York, Tate Wilkinson, Esq., patentee of the theatres royal York and Hull. Owing to his kindness to his performers, judicious instructions, and punctually in pecuniary matters, his de-

1803.-1804.

pendents considered him more as a father than a master. He excelled both as a tragedian and a mimic, and as a theatrical tutor he was never equalled, as has been testified by many of his pupils on the "London boards," especially the late Mr. Matthews, who, in spite of some natural defects, had long been in great celebrity, and found himself "at home" on every stage.

War being re-commenced with France, and as Bonaparte continued to threaten us with invasion, all England, and especially London, kindled at the call of patriotism; the squares, gardens, and even church yards of the metropolis and its vicinity became places of military exercise, and on the 26th and 28th of October, in this year, the number of effective volunteers reviewed by George III., in Hyde park, was 27,077. Besides this warlike display, a patriotic fund was established in July, and, before the end of August, more than £152,000 was subscribed, towards which the corporation of the city of London contributed £2,500. ——— In 1803 an act was passed for lighting and cleansing and preventing nuisances and obstructions in the streets of Bradford, and making provision for the effectual watching of the town.

1804. Jan. 26th. The Toll gate at Halifax bridge was removed, the cost of the bridge being liquidated, and a handsome sum accumulated for repairs. ——— On May 14th, a melancholy accident happened at Blackshaw, near Halifax, to Robert Sutcliff, a poor aged weaver, who, having been frequently injured by his neighbours, imagined that his room was haunted by an evil spirit, and to allay which, he sent for John Hepworth, the Bradford fortune teller, who, after pouring human blood mixed with hairs into a large iron bottle, corked it tightly up, and put it into the fire, where it soon afterwards exploded with terrible violence, killed the old weaver, and greatly damaged the house, to the utter astonishment of the impious exorciser. ——— On January 30th, lady Mary Horton presented the colours of the Halifax volunteers to their commander, colonel Horton; and on March 8th, the Leeds volunteers, commanded by colonel Lloyd, received their colours from the mayoress of Leeds, Mrs. Ikin; as also did the Upper Agbrigg volunteers from lady Armytage, they being under the command of Sir George Armytage, bart. ——— On March 25th, Messrs. Ramsbottom and Swaine's extensive worsted mills at Bradford were nearly destroyed by fire.

On May 19th, a wife was sold in Leeds market for

1804.

five guineas, to a gentleman who well knew her merits, and, strange to say, she had been previously sold at the same place before she was born, her mother, when she was in embryo, being disposed of in a similar manner.

On June 8th, as Mr. Bedford, butler to Sir G. Armytage, was driving his family in a gig, the horse took fright, upset the vehicle, and killed Mrs. B. on the spot, besides breaking both Mr. B.'s arms and one of his thighs, and severely bruising the rest of the family.——A memorable four mile race was rode at the York August meeting, this year, by Mrs. Thornton, (backed by the colonel) and Mr. Flint, the former staking 500 and the latter 1000 guineas. For three miles the fair jockey kept the lead, riding with great skill and spirit, but her horse, Vingarillo, having the shorter stroke of the two, began to lag, and perceiving that she must lose, she drew up in a very scientific manner within two distances. Upwards of 50,000 anxious spectators were on the course, and as much as two to one was bet upon the lady. It is said upwards of £200,000 depended upon this extraordinary match.——Dec. 16th. The woollen manufactory at Laister Dyke was burnt down.——On December 17th, Messrs. Atkinson's factory, fifty yards long and three stories high, situated at Hunslet, was destroyed by fire, as also was the house of Mr. Olivant, at the foot of Northgate, Wakefield, on December 30th.——The warehouse at Bradley mills, near Huddersfield, was burnt down.

Joseph Priestley, a natural philosopher and chemist, also a metaphysician and Unitarian divine, was born at Fieldhead, near Leeds, March 13th, 1733. He was educated at the Daventry academy, under the care of Dr. Ashworth. In his 22nd year he became assistant minister of an Independent congregation at Needham market, in Suffolk, and afterwards officiated as minister of a congregation at Nantwich, in Cheshire. In 1761 he received the post of tutor in the academy at Warrington, but, in 1768, he removed to Leeds to undertake the pastoral charge of Millhill congregation. He had already published several works of value and importance on philology, history, politics, and physics. His "History of Electricity," published 1767, had proved his strict and careful enquiry into the laws of nature. Encouraged by the success which it met with, he published his "History and present state of Discoveries Relating to Vision, Light, and Colours," (1772.) He accepted the office of Librarian to the earl of Shelburne, marquis of Lansdowne, made a tour with him on the con-

1804.

continent, and spent a winter with him in London. In 1773 he published, in the "Philosophical Transactions," a treatise on the different kinds of air, by which he gained Copley's medal. It appeared in the following year in an augmented edition, dedicated to lord Shelburne, and accompanied by three other volumes. This work, rich in new and important facts, formed an era in the knowledge of aeriform fluids, and Priestley's name became in consequence renowned throughout Europe. In 1774 he made the discovery, made also about the same time by Scheele, of pure, or, as he called it, of dephlogisticated air. In 1776 he communicated to the Royal Society some interesting remarks respecting the way in which blood receives its colour from the air. In 1778 he discovered the property possessed by plants standing in the sunlight, and of purifying impure air. He was also the author of many other discoveries. In 1775 appeared his "examination of the Doctrine of Common Sense," in answer to Reid, Beattie, and Oswald. Soon afterwards he laid before the public "Hartley's Theory of the Human Mind," in a more comprehensible form than that in which it had been expounded by the author. In 1777 he published his "Disquisitions on Matter and Spirit." This was succeeded by "A Vindication of Unitarianism and of the Doctrine of Necessity." He afterwards took up his residence at Birmingham, and before long became the minister to the Unitarian congregation in Birmingham. He here published his "History of the Corruptions of Christianity," and his "History of Early Opinions concerning Jesus Christ." The French Revolution broke out in its fury, July 14th, 1791, when the friends of the French celebrated the anniversary of the destruction of the Bastille, in consequence of which a riot took place, his house, with his library, manuscripts, and apparatus, was burned down, and he himself narrowly escaped with his life. Not long afterwards he accepted an invitation to a congregation at Hackney, and recommenced there his accustomed pursuits, but the attacks on himself and his family being renewed, he determined at last to leave a country so hostile to his person and his principles. He sailed in 1794 for America, where he died February 6th, 1804. Priestley was a man of perfect simplicity of character. In spite of his many controversies, he entertained no personal enmities, and was entirely free from envy and jealousy. In the intercourse of life he was agreeable and benevolent. His mind was active, discriminating, and exact; his knowledge comprehensive and



1804.-1805.

various ; his style in composition was very clear and fluent.

On the 19th of August, in this year, died the Rev. Michael Bacon, D.D., who was forty years vicar of Wakefield.

The earl of Carlisle presented the dean and chapter of York with some beautiful ancient painted glass, which is placed in one of the windows of the minster. The figures are as large as life, and represent the annunciation of Mary, the mother of Jesus, and Elizabeth, the mother of John the Baptist. It was brought from the church of St. Nicholas, in Rouen, in Normandy, and is supposed to have been copied from a design by Sebastian del Piombo, the great favourite of Pope Clement VIII.—On the 20th of May, Napoleon was proclaimed emperor of the French, which terminated the republic of France, after it had continued 4,136 days, one day less than the duration of the commonwealth of England.—June 20th. A bill introduced into parliament for the purpose of permitting corn to be exported when the price of wheat was at or below 48s. per quarter, and to be imported when the average price was 63s. This bill afterwards passed into a law.

1805. On the 9th of January, died Jervas Storr, of Leeds, a worthy member of the society of Friends, who possessed an income of several hundred pounds a year, but only expended on himself about £30 per annum, and bestowed the surplus on the poor, within a circuit of several miles round the town, where he weekly searched out the abodes of the indigent, and administered to them advice, bedding, clothing, and money in the most judicious manner. His spare habit, venerable grey locks, resigned countenance, and coarse garb, gave him the appearance of one of the ancient prophets, and caused him to be regarded with reverential deference by all who knew him, especially the numerous claimants on his unbounded charity, who deeply regretted his loss.—The cotton mill at Longbottom, near Halifax, was burnt down January 31st, as also was Hodgson's scribbling mill and forge, at Hunslet, on February 6th.—Lady Harewood, died February 22nd.

John Wilkinson, a clothier, of Holbeck, was executed at York, in March, for the murder of his wife.—About 600 pieces of silver coin, mostly of the reign of Edward I., were found under an old wall at Knaresbro' priory, and carried to Sir Thomas Slingsby, the lord of the manor, who generously gave the finder their intrinsic value.—In July, Mr. William Stables, a clothier, of Horsforth, was murdered in his own house, and a reward of 100 guineas was publicly offered by his brother John,



1805.

who, however, was strongly suspected of being accessory to the foul deed, and, either from guilt or insanity, was never happy afterwards, but hanged himself in his own barn in the September following.——The organ in Wakefield church was built by Mr. William Gray, of London, and cost six hundred and thirty guineas.

On November 20th, the extensive cloth mill of Benjamin Gott, Esq., at Armley, was entirely destroyed by fire.

This year, earl St. Vincent, the distinguished naval commander, visited York, and received the freedom of the city in a box of "heart of oak."——The amount of woollen cloth milled this year in the West-Riding was 10,079,256 yards of broad, and 6,193,317 yards of narrow.——On the 29th Dec., the remains of Mr. J. Taylor, of Gomersal, were interred in a copse on a declivity, half a mile from his house, a spot which he had long before selected as his resting place.——The remains of a Roman wall were discovered by some workmen behind the grand jury room, at York castle, upon which the wall that now meets the eye of the observer was built. At the same time a block of freestone, inscribed "*Divitati*," in Norman characters, was found, while the men were digging a drain. It was supposed to have been a boundary stone, and placed there in the reign of William the Conqueror.

*Battle of Trafalgar.* On the 21st of October, a fleet of thirty-three sail, partly French and partly Spanish, met a British fleet of twenty-seven, under lord Nelson, off Cape Trafalgar, when a battle took place which resulted in the defeat of the French and Spanish fleets, though at the expense of the life of the British commander. Previous to the commencement of the engagement, Nelson hoisted his last signal, "England expects every man to do his duty." The contest was severe, but never was a victory more complete. After the battle had raged for some time, Nelson was walking on the quarter-deck, when he was pierced by a shot from one of the French marksmen, not more than fifteen yards distant. "They have done for me at last, Hardy," said he. "I hope not," said Hardy. "Yes," he replied, my back-bone is shot through." He was immediately carried below. The cock-pit was crowded with wounded and dying men; he insisted that the surgeon should leave him and attend to those to whom he might be useful. "For to me," said he, "you can do nothing." He lived long enough to be assured that the triumph of his fleet was secured, and he died thanking God "that he had done his duty." The loss of the British amounted to 423

1805-1806.

killed, and 1,064 wounded. Twenty of the enemies' vessels struck, but through the boisterous weather which immediately followed the battle, fifteen of the prizes went down, one effected its escape into Cadiz, and four only were saved.

Britain, by this victory, fixed permanently her dominion over the seas and coasts of the civilized world. At this time however, Napoleon was asserting with equal success his supremacy over continental Europe. By a sudden, rapid, and unexpected movement, he conducted an army into Germany, where the Austrians were already making aggressions upon neutral territory. On the 17th October, he took the fortress of Ulm, with its artillery, magazines, and garrison of 30,000 men: a month afterwards he entered Vienna without resistance. He then pursued the royal family, and the allied armies of Russia and Austria, into Moravia; and on the 2nd of December, he gained the decisive and celebrated victory of Austerlitz, which put an end to the coalition, and rendered him the dictator of the continent.

1806. On January 16th, the lower parts of Leeds, Wakefield, &c., were inundated by the overflowing of the rivers, and the bursting of the canal bank, near Huddersfield.

Jan. 23rd. Died the right honourable William Pitt, the second son of the great earl of Chatham, aged 47.

John Gledhill, Esq., left to the poor of Chapel-Allerton £100, the interest to be distributed in bread.——George Hey, the Kirkstall fortune-teller, advertised, in the most solemn manner, that he was "commissioned by heaven to announce, that on Whit-Monday, in the year 1806, the world would be destroyed by torrents of fire."——March 12th. Peter Firth, a blind youth, 19 years old, ran from Halifax to Leeds, 18 miles in two hours and 53 minutes.

On March 20th, Musgrave and Co.'s cotton factory, in Simpson's fold, Leeds, was destroyed by fire.——May 5th, Peter Atkinson, of Whitkirk, a depraved youth of 15 years of age, was executed in the city of York, for striking Elizabeth Stocken on the head, with the claw-end of a hammer.——On February 17th, died, the Rev. Peter Thomson, minister of the Scotch church, in Albion-street, Leeds, where his congregation erected to his memory a marble monument, bearing an elegant inscription, written by the Rev. William Wilson, of Greenock.——A fortnight fair for fat cattle and sheep was established at Otley, on July 7th.——Lord Milton was married to the honourable Miss Dundas, July 8th.——A fire at Wooley park destroyed all the splendid and newly erected apart-

1806.

ments of the mansion, on July 23rd. The damage amounted to £3,000.——August 4th, John Hardy Esq., was elected recorder of Leeds.——Sept. 13th. died, the right honourable Charles James Fox.——On September 28th, their royal highnesses the prince of Wales and the duke of Clarence arrived at Ledstone hall, near Pontefract, on a visit to Michael Angelo Taylor, Esq. The prince paid a morning visit to lady Irwin, at Temple Newsam, but was prevented by indisposition from going to Leeds, where his royal brother however arrived, and, with lord Dundas and Mr. Taylor, visited the extensive manufactory of Messrs. Wormald, Gott, and Co., the Cloth halls, &c. The royal visitors had previously been at Doncaster races and Wentworth house.

The following inscription on a plain tablet in the North-East corner of Rokeby's chapel, in the parish church, Halifax, refers to a gentleman who was long respected in that town, and excited the affectionate regard of the inhabitants :

"Near this place, in the grave of the late Richard Taylor, Esq., are deposited the remains of JOSEPH HULME, M.D. who departed this life on the 2nd day of February, 1806, aged 92 years. He practised physic in this town, with great success, about 63 years. To his patients he was very attentive and humane; to the poor, benevolent and charitable. He was ready in lending pecuniary assistance to most who applied to him, but slow in calling in his debts. He was a man of few words, yet affable and pleasant with his friends. From his medical abilities, his general knowledge, and gentle manners, he was much respected by all who knew him. He was a rare instance of temperance and sobriety, water being his common drink from his youth, and for many years he never tasted animal food. This strict regimen did not prevent his taking much exercise, and undergoing great fatigue; for he was almost daily on horseback, over the neighbouring hills, in every season and in all weather. Though so far advanced in life, yet his hand continued steady, and his judgment clear, so that he died not of old age, but of an acute disease; and in the blessed hope that he should not dwell for ever with corruption."

The following inscription is worthy of extraction :—

"Sacred to the memory of JANE, relict of John Caygill, Esq. of Shay, Halifax, and last remaining issue of William Selwyn, Esq. formerly of Down Hall, Essex, who was lost to her afflicted family the 25th day of July, 1806, aged 84 years. Her heart was the favourite residence of all the gentle and peaceful virtues: warm affection, sincere piety, benevolence and humanity dwelt there, in mental as well as bodily sufferings she was patient and resigned; to her numerous virtues, held in constant exercise, her relations and friends bear the most ample and sincere testimony, and availing ourselves of her good

1806.-1807.

example, may we endeavour to tread with religious cheerfulness her peaceful footsteps, for they lead to everlasting happiness. As a tribute of filial veneration and affection her only immediate descendant, lady Jane Ibbettson, caused this monument to be erected, A.D. 1807."

On November 13th, William Wilberforce, and Walter Fawkes, Esqrs. were elected members of parliament for Yorkshire without opposition; Mr. Lascelles having declined the contest.——Steps mill, near Honley, was destroyed by fire November 14th.——January 9th, the remains of the gallant lord Nelson were interred in St. Paul's cathedral. The volunteers of London on this occasion lined the whole way through which the procession passed. The funeral car of the hero was exceedingly splendid. The sight of the flag of lord Nelson's own ship, the Victory, borne by a number of seamen who had been under his immediate command, excited strong emotions in the hearts of all who beheld it.——A large and handsome house, with a double flight of stone steps in front, and before it a neat court, with trees and shrubs, built on the site of a church dedicated to St. Wilfred, in York, was purchased this year, out of the county rate, and appropriated to the use of the judges of assize, and is now called the judges' lodgings. It stands in the street called Lendal.

Nov. 6th. The French emperor promulgated at Berlin his famous decree, interdicting all commerce between the British dominions and the countries subject to his control. By this decree also, the British islands were declared to be in a state of blockade: subjects of England found in other countries occupied by the French were declared prisoners of war; and all English property lawful prize. Letters addressed to England, or written in the English language, were ordered to be stopped, and vessels touching at England or any English colony, were excluded from every harbour under the control of France. The French emperor declared that the regulations of this decree "should be regarded as the fundamental law of the French empire till England recognised the law of war to be one and the same by land and sea, and in no case applicable to private property, or to individuals not bearing arms; and till she consented to restrict the right of blockade to fortified places actually invested by a sufficient force."

1807. On January 24th, Messrs. Fearnley and Co.'s worsted mill, at Drighlington, was burnt to the ground.

On February 26th, the lieutenantcy issued from Leeds, militia warrants for 14,000 men, to be ballotted out of

1807.

the population of the West-Riding of the county of York.——March 16. The bill for the abolition of the slave trade passed the House of Commons. The slave trade was abolished by France, Spain, and Holland, in 1817. It was entirely abolished throughout the British dominions in 1840, when a compensation of twenty millions sterling was given to the slave owners.

On March 18th, died, at East moor, near Wakefield, Mrs. Susannah Robshaw, aged 103 years, and mother of twenty-three children—three of them at a birth.

In April, died George Mason, the noted astrologer of Calverley Carr, near Bradford. By his extensive impostures, he amassed several hundred pounds.——On May 4th, Wentworth house was the scene of the most munificent festivity, in consequence of lord Milton, earl Fitzwilliam's only son and heir, having attained his majority. Two oxen were roasted whole in the park, and these, with twenty sheep, roasted in quarters, an immense quantity of bread and strong ale, were given to the multitude assembled on the lawn, whilst about a thousand gentry and tenants were sumptuously entertained in the house.

On May 13th, was held in the castle yard, at York, the courts for the nomination of candidates for Yorkshire. William Wilberforce, Esq., lord Milton, and the hon. Henry Lascelles, (afterwards earl of Harewood) and Walter Fawkes, Esq. were nominated; after which one of the most celebrated contests in the history of electioneering took place. The real struggle was between Milton and Lascelles, for Wilberforce was an old servant, in whose election all parties concurred. During the fifteen days poll, the county was in a state of the most violent agitation, party spirit being wound up to the highest pitch by the friends of the two noble families, and every thing being done that money or personal exertion could accomplish; the roads in all directions were covered night and day with coaches, barouches, curricles, gigs, fly-waggons, and military cars with eight horses, conveying voters from the most remote corners of the county. On the first day Mr. Lascelles polled the greater number of votes: on the second day lord Milton headed the poll: but on the fifth day Mr. Lascelles passed his opponent, and kept the lead till the thirteenth day, at the close of which the numbers stood, Milton 10,313, Lascelles, 10,255. Now the efforts were prodigious, and the excitement maddening. At the final close of the poll the numbers were as follows:—

1807.

<i>Mr. Wilberforce,</i>	. . . . .	, .	11,808.
<i>Lord Milton,</i>	. . . . .	. .	11,177.
<i>Mr. Lascelles,</i>	. . . . .	. .	10,990.

Lord Milton had nearly 9,000 plumpers. The total number of votes tendered was 25,120, of which 23,056 were received. The contest cost earl Fitzwilliam and the earl of Harewood each upwards of £100,000. When the news of Milton's victory arrived in London, on the Sunday, the different Whig families sported large orange favours at their horses' heads, and the ladies in Kensington gardens celebrated the return of the popular candidate by a splendid display.

On the 19th of May, Richard Bramley, Esq., then mayor of Leeds, imprudently seized a boy who had offended him by crying "Milton for ever!" but the populace soon rescued the lad, and so "hustled" the mayor, that he immediately read the riot act, called out a troop of horse soldiers, and ordered them to scour the streets.

On August 31st, Titley and Co's thread mill, at Hunslet, was destroyed by fire.—On November 1st, died, in his 90th year, the right Rev. William Markham, D.D., the learned and pious archbishop of York, who held the see thirty years. He was succeeded by the Hon. Edward Vernon Harcourt —In August, whilst digging for the foundation of a house, near the Mount, without Micklegate-bar, York, the workmen broke into a Roman vault about four feet from the surface. It was built of stone, and arched over with Roman bricks, with a small door of entrance at the north end. It was eight feet long, five feet broad, and six feet high. It contained a coffin of coarse ragstone grit, seven feet long, three feet two inches wide, four inches thick, and one foot nine inches deep, covered over with a flag of blue stone, and containing a human skeleton entire, with the teeth complete, supposed to have been a Roman female of high rank, and to have been deposited there from 1400 to 1700 years. Near the skull lay a small phial, and the fragments of another, the inside of which appeared to have been silvered. Near the vault was found an urn of a red colour, containing ashes and bones partly burnt.

Feb. 23rd. Thirty persons were crushed to death in a crowd before Newgate, collected to witness the execution of two men named Holloway and Haggerty, who suffered (improperly it has since been thought) for murder.

In this year 18 persons were crushed to death, and a



1807.-1808.

great number wounded, at Sadler's wells theatre, in consequence of some imprudent person having given a false alarm of fire.—Ann Baynes, by will, dated September 21st, 1807, bequeathed to the Rev. Miles Atkinson and his successors, ministers for the time being of St. Paul's church, in Leeds, £1000 upon trust, to invest the same at interest in the public funds, or upon parliamentary or real security, and to pay and divide the dividends or interest equally amongst such ten poor widows, residing in Leeds, as the said Miles Atkinson and his successors should select.

Up to this year (1807) a custom prevailed among the butchers in Leeds, to kill the cattle only on Sunday and Monday, and to let the beef thus prepared for use supply not only the market on Tuesday, but also that on Saturday; the consequence was, that an immense quantity of meat in warm weather was either completely spoiled, or when sold was unwholesome and unfit for public use, so that a larger quantity of unsaleable meat was produced in Leeds than in any other place in England.

1808. In January large meetings were held in the West-Riding, and petitions numerously signed, praying for a return of the long absent blessings of peace. The Leeds petition was signed by 28,628, and the Huddersfield by 20,000 persons.—In the dreadful storm and tempests of February, many travellers perished from the severity of the frost, and the northern and eastern shores of the island were strewn with wrecks.—Messrs. Ridsdale and Co.'s warehouse and shops, at Woodhouse, near Leeds, were destroyed by fire, June 22nd; as also was a large corn warehouse, with 5,000 quarters of grain belonging to Webster and Co., of Wakefield, on Oct. 10th: the damage committed by the latter conflagration was about £15,000.

The "devilish practices" of Mary Bateman, commonly called the Yorkshire witch, who had long resided in Camp field, Leeds, were this year exposed before the magistrates of that town. She was the daughter of a small farmer named Harker, of Aisenby, near Thirsk, and was born in 1768. From her earliest years she was addicted to pilfering and other villanous acts. In 1792 she married, after a courtship of three weeks, John Bateman, an honest hard working man. They took up their residence in Leeds, when Mary became a professed fortune-teller. In this capacity she swindled the credulous by wholesale, and her crimes even to murder were not a few. She was, however, always cunning enough to keep out of the reach of



1808.

the law. During the time she lodged in High Court lane, Leeds, she stole from a fellow lodger a watch, a silver spoon, and two guineas. After a fire in Leeds, in 1796, she obtained from the benevolent a large quantity of sheets and money, under the pretence that she was collecting for the sufferers. She sought to attract notice during her residence in the Black Dog yard, Bank, by producing an egg on which was inscribed the words "*Crist is Coming.*" It was shown to crowds of visitors who paid from a penny to a shilling for the sight. In 1803 Mary had frequently to assist two maiden ladies named Kitchin, who were drapers in St. Peter's square. They were taken suddenly ill and died, and their mother, who had come from a distance to attend them, also died. Mary told the neighbours they had died of the plague, and people in consequence shunned the house; but it is supposed they were poisoned. One Judith Cryer, who had a reprobate son, gave Mary £4, (and pawned her bed for the purpose), in order that he might be kept from being hung, which the fortune-teller said was his fate. To save the son of a Mrs. Snowden from a similar fate, she obtained twelve guineas and a silver watch. A gentleman, living in Meadow-lane, one day bought a leg of mutton at the Shambles, and requested that it might be sent home immediately. Mary, overhearing the bargain, hastened to Leeds bridge, where she waited for the butcher's boy. On his approach she made to him in a great hurry, pretended that she was the gentleman's servant, scolded the boy for being so long on the road, took the mutton by the shank, gave the lad a bump on the back and said she should take it home herself. Of course the gentleman had to postpone his dinner hour in consequence. She once produced to her husband a letter which professed to be from Thirsk, stating that his father was dying. The son at once went to pay the last respects to his dying parent, but, on his arrival, found to his astonishment that he was very well. On his return, however, his wife had stripped his house and sold every article of furniture in it. Her own brother had deserted from the militia, and Mary wrote to her mother stating that he had been arrested as a deserter, and that £10 would be required for his release. The money was sent, and Mary used it for her own purposes. The crowning crime, however, of this abominable woman was practised on the ill-fated family of William Perigo, a small clothier at Bramley, whose wife was supposed to labour under an evil wish. This was in the year 1806. For up-

1808.

wards of nine months Mary, (aided by an imaginary personage, to whom she gave the name of Miss Blythe), held Perigo and his wife in her toils, now exciting their hopes, then rousing their fears, but all the time draining their purse, till she had got from them £70 in money, (all they had in the world), and remorselessly stripped the house of its furniture, and the inmates of their best apparel. At length, when they had nothing more to give, and when they became clamorous for the fulfilment of those promises of happiness and prosperity, which the evil spirit by whom they were plundered had held out to them, she took the desperate resolution to silence their importunities and avoid detection by terminating their lives. With this purpose, and under the pretence of administering a charm, she gave them poison to mix in their food. Both Perigo and his wife partook of the honey and the pudding in which the noxious drug was infused; she to the loss of her life, and he to the injury of his constitution. The death of Perigo's wife dissipated the delusion under which he had so long laboured. He laid his case before the magistrates at Leeds, and Mary was committed to York. On the 17th of March, 1809, she was tried for the wilful murder of Rebecca Perigo, and, being convicted on the clearest evidence, she was ordered for execution on the Monday following. The artifice and falsehood of this base woman was shown even after sentence of death. She stated to the judge that she was pregnant; the law being in such cases that if the delinquent be four months and a half advanced in that state, she shall not be executed until after her accouchment. The judge at once ordered a jury of twelve married females to be impanneled to ascertain the truth or falsehood of the statement. Their verdict was, that "Mary Bateman was not enceinte"; her youngest child was only ten months old. At the appointed time she was executed at York. She was launched into eternity with a lie upon her lips, having denied her guilt to the last. Her body was given for dissection to the surgeons of the Leeds infirmary.

The Rev. William Wood, F.L.S., who succeeded Dr. Priestley at the Mill-hill chapel, Leeds, died April 1st, aged 63 years. He for some time conducted the natural history department of the Annual Review, and furnished many of the articles on botany in Ree's Cyclopædia. Memoirs of his life and writings have been published by the Rev. Charles Wellbeloved formerly of the Manchester college, in York.——The Northern society for the en-

1808.-1809.

couragement of the fine arts was established in Leeds, on March 4th, but discontinued after three exhibitions.

Sept. 5th. Bradley mills, near Huddersfield, were destroyed by fire.——At the dissolution of the company of cordwainers at York, this year, its members presented a very fine cup or bowl to Mr. Sheriff Hornby, of that city, as a token of esteem. This elegant piece of plate he soon afterwards presented to the minster. In the middle of it the cordwainer's arms are richly embossed. It is edged with silver, doubly gilt, and ornamented with three silver feet. It was originally given to the above company by archbishop Scroope, in 1398.

The amazing successes of Napoleon having inspired him with the idea of universal empire, he went so far as to dethrone the reigning family of Spain, and gave the crown to his elder brother Joseph. Under a sense of wrong and insult, the Spanish people rose in revolt against the French troops. In pursuance of a treaty entered into between England and the provisional government of Spain, a small army was landed August 8th, 1808, in Portugal, which had been recently taken possession of by the French. Sir Arthur Wellesley, who afterwards became so famous as duke of Wellington, was the leader of this force. The first resistance encountered was at Rolica, where the French general, Laborde, resolutely defended some difficult tangled passes, retiring slowly step by step, and inflicting great loss upon the British, who could not, from the nature of the ground, return his incessant and well-directed fire with any effect. Laborde retreated rapidly and skillfully, before the English could reach him in any sufficient force. In an engagement at Vimeria, on the 21st of August, Sir Arthur repulsed the French, under Junot, who soon after agreed, by what was called the convention of Cintra, to evacuate the country; Sir Arthur being recalled, the British army was led into Spain under the command of Sir John Moore, but this officer found the reinforcements poured in by Napoleon too great to be withstood, and accordingly, in the end of December, he commenced a disastrous though well-conducted retreat towards the port of Corunna, whither he was closely pursued by marshal Soult. The British army suffered on this occasion the severest hardships and losses, but did not experience a check in battle or lose a single standard.

1809. In a battle which took place at Corunna, Jan. 16th, this year, for the purpose of protecting the embarkation of the troops, Sir John Moore was killed. In April war was

1809.

declared by Austria against France. Upwards of half a million of men were brought into the field, under the command of the archduke Charles. Bonaparte moved rapidly into Germany, and, by the victory of Eckmühl, opened up the way to Vienna, which surrendered to him. The decisive encounter was at Wagram, where the strength of Austria was completely broken to pieces. The peace which succeeded, was sealed by the marriage of Napoleon to Maria Louisa, daughter of the emperor of Austria, for which purpose he divorced his former wife Josephine. Taking advantage of the absence of Napoleon in Austria, a considerable army, was landed at Lisbon, April 23rd, under the command of Sir Arthur Wellesley, who soon surprised marshal Soult at Oporto, caused him to make a hurried retreat, which soon changed into a headlong flight, and inflicting the most dreadful misery and ruin on the fugitives. After driving Soult out of Portugal, Sir Arthur then made a rapid move upon Madrid. On hearing of the disaster which had befallen Soult, king Joseph advanced with a considerable force under the command of marshal Victor; and on the 28th July, attacked the British and Spanish troops at *Talavera*. The contest was obstinate and bloody, and though the French did not retreat, the advantage lay with the British. The loss on both sides was immense. On the British side generals Mackenzie and Langworth fell, and the entire casualties amounted to 5,423 men. The French loss was infinitely greater—said to have been at least 10,000 men. For this battle and the passage of Doura, the British general was elevated to a peerage under the title of baron Doura, and viscount Wellington, of *Talavera*. On the 10th of February following, the House of Commons voted lord Wellington £2,000 a year with succession for two generations. Immediately after the battle, Sir Arthur fell back upon Portugal, where he occupied a strong position near Santarem.

There is in the Leeds parish church a most beautiful cenotaph, by J. Flaxman, Esq., R.A., which cost upwards of £600, erected to the memory of two lamented young officers, who were killed at the battle of *Talavera*. The monument represents a weeping victory, as large as life, seated on a cannon, and supporting her head upon her right hand, which rests on a banner inscribed with the word "*Talavera*," between two wreaths. Underneath is a lion in basso-relievo, and on the base the following inscription:—

"To the memory of captain Samuel Walker, of the 3rd regt. of

1809.

guards, and captain Richard Beckett, of the coldstream regt. of guards, natives of Leeds; who, having bravely served their country together in Egypt, Germany, Denmark, and Portugal, fell in the prime of life, at the glorious battle of Talavera, in Spain, on the 28th of July, 1809. Their fellow townsmen dedicate this monument."

The first authorisation of a railway by act of parliament is said to have been that of the Surrey railway, an iron track laid from Merstham to Wandsworth, in 1809; and of a short line from Cheltenham to Gloucester.

In the autumn of this year the British government despatched an armament of 100,000 men, for the purpose of securing a station which should command the navigation of the Scheldt. The army having disembarked on the insalubrious island of Walcheren, was swept off in thousands by disease. The survivors returned in December without having done anything towards the object for which they set out.—In 1809 the act of parliament of the 49th Geo. III., cap. 122, was passed, entitled "An act to amend and enlarge the powers of an act passed in the thirtieth year of his present majesty, for better supplying the town and neighbourhood of Leeds, in the county of York with water; and for more effectually lighting and cleansing the streets and other places within the said town and neighbourhood, and for removing and preventing nuisances and annoyances therein; and for erecting a court-house and prison for the borough of Leeds, and for widening and improving the streets and passages in the said town."

July 6th. During the repair of the Leeds parish church, a stone coffin, supposed to have lain in the ground 700 years, was found under the entrance to the bell chamber. It was hewn out of a solid block of stone, and contained a perfect skeleton, with some other human bones, in good preservation, so completely had the air been excluded from them.—June 21st. Died at Stamford, Mr. Daniel Lambert; he was in his fortieth year. He weighed upwards of fifty-two stone. His coffin was six feet four inches long, four feet four inches wide, and two feet four inches deep, was built on two axle trees, with four wheels, and upon these his remains were rolled into the grave.—July 12th. Captain Barclay finished his feat of walking 1000 miles in 1000 successive hours, at Newmarket; £100,000 is supposed to have changed hands on this occasion.

The Wesleyan conference having passed a resolution condemning the holding of camp meetings by members

1809.

of the society, excluded two brothers named Bourne from that conference. The Primitive Methodist society originated in consequence, in this year. On the 13th of February, 1812, at a meeting called to make some of the necessary arrangements for the new society, the name of Primitive Methodists was assumed, and it was found that the society included at that period thirty-four places and twenty-three preachers. The following is said to be the origin of the name of Ranters, by which this body is designated in so many places:—At Belper several meetings for prayer were held in 1814, and “when these meetings were closed, the praying people, in returning home, were accustomed to sing through the street. This circumstance procured them the name of Ranters; and the name of Ranter, which first arose on this occasion, afterwards spread very extensively.”

Jan. 16th. Mr. Joseph Lancaster gave a lecture on his plan of educating the poor, at the Leeds Music hall, on Feb. 3rd. Schools on the “Lancasterian plan” were soon afterwards established in most of the large towns in Yorkshire and other counties.—On June 30th, a most lamentable accident occurred in Lee, Watson, and Co.’s coal mine at East Ardsley, near Wakefield, owing to the miners breaking through into some old workings, whence there rushed upon them an immense body of water with such force, that three boys only, who happened to be at the bucket, could immediately escape its overwhelming fury, leaving behind them eleven men and three boys, of whose safety but very faint hopes were entertained by their distracted relatives, who stood in painful solicitude at the pit mouth during the three days occupied in draining the mine, for which purpose, two powerful engines were set to work, and the colliers from all the neighbouring pits used every exertion to save, if possible, their immured brethren, who, it was supposed, might possibly be alive in some of the chambers above the inundated passages of the mine; but only four out of the fourteen were extricated alive from their perilous situation, in which they had existed three days and three nights in the darksome bowels of the earth, without rest or sustenance, except a little bread which one of them happened to have in his pocket, and which he generously gave to his three companions, whilst he allayed his own hunger with some tobacco. Two of the lost men were some time alive with the



1809.

less unfortunate four, but were drowned in attempting to make their way out before the water had sufficiently subsided.

July 27th. A dreadful thunderstorm was partially felt at Leeds, and was most tremendous about seven miles to the south-east. Several houses at Garforth were struck with the lightning, and among others, that of Mr. Collett; the electric fluid struck the chimney, and went through the wall, which it damaged in several places; it then took another direction, broke a chair and some china, and again penetrated the wall. Mr. and Mrs. Collett had scarcely quitted the room in which they had been sitting, when the lightning entered the apartment, and overwhelmed everything in its destructive course. The house of Thomas Webster was also much shattered, and two cows killed. At Barwick in Elmet, the house of Mr. Thomas Stoner was greatly shattered, and a collier standing in his house had his shoe-string burnt by the electric spark. Mrs. Stoner had engaged a party to tea the same afternoon, but had reversed her invitation at the entreaty of one of her friends, and had gone to visit a neighbour, when the room in which her party would have sat was shattered with the lightning. A tree under which a number of hay-makers had imprudently sheltered themselves, was shivered a few moments after they had quitted their shelter. A man and his wife at Kippax, sitting at opposite sides of the fire, had a dog killed between them, though they both escaped unhurt.

Oct. 25th, being the day on which the Royal Jubilee was celebrated, the towns of Yorkshire were not behind the rest of the kingdom in public manifestations of loyalty and affection to their venerable monarch, George III.

Joe Brown, the well known "church watcher," was executed at York, for poisoning a woman with whom he lodged, at Leeds. The better to impose upon the unwary, he for some time wore the garb of religion, but being expelled the society he had joined, he attached himself to a young man of dissolute character, and they, to avoid a warrant against them for burglary, disguised themselves as fortune-tellers; Joe personating the deaf and dumb, and the other the interpreter. They were supposed to be the murderers of the Leeds and Selby carrier, but murder was not proved against them till Joe confessed his crimes, when about to embark under a sentence of transportation.—Ensign Henry Whitham, of the Craven volunteers, was drowned in the Ouse, at York, where his brother officers erected in the minster a white marble tablet to his memory.



1810

1810. Early in this year, Napoleon reinforced the army in Spain, and gave orders to Massena, to "drive the British out of the Peninsula." Wellington posted his troops on the heights of Busaco—eighty thousand in number, including Portuguese—and there, on the 27th of September was attacked by an equal number of French. Both British and Portuguese behaved well: the French were repulsed with great loss. Wellington now retired to the lines of Torres Vedras, causing the whole country to be desolated as he went for the purpose of embarrassing the French. When Massena observed the strength of the British position, he hesitated; and ultimately, in the spring of 1811, performed a disastrous and harrassed retreat into the Spanish territory.——Sir Francis Burdett, member for Westminster, was this year committed to the Tower, by a warrant from the Speaker of the house of Commons, for having made some accrimonious remarks in a letter (which was voted a libel on the house) to his constituents, relative to the exclusion of strangers from the House of Commons during the inquiries into the Walcheren expedition. Sir Francis denying the legality of the warrant, resisted its execution by remaining in his own house, where he was protected from the officers by immense crowds of people. After suffering a kind of siege for two days, he was forcibly taken by a large train of soldiers, and lodged in the Tower. By these proceedings, the capital was convulsed for several days and in the course of the tumults which took place, a number of lives were lost.

Feb. 11th. Sir Thomas Gascoigne, of Parlington hall, died of grief for the loss of his only son, who was killed by a fall from his horse a short time before.——Feb. 14th, two horse-dealers, Mr. Watkinson, of Cheshire, and Mr. Isaac Tetley, of Leeds, returning from Northallerton fair, rode their horses from Harewood Bridge to Leeds, (nine miles) in twenty-six minutes and 12 seconds, for a wager of twenty guineas; the former won by half a length.——On May 12th, died Hannah Green, of Yeadon, a noted sybil, called the *Lingbob Witch*, who, during 40 years' practice in the art of fortune-telling, amassed upwards of £1000.

A pewter chalice was found in Brotherton church-yard, supposed to have been interred with some distinguished leader in the civil wars of 1461.

On the 27th of April, this year, died that remarkable and extraordinary man, John Metcalfe, (usually called blind Jack, of Knaresborough), aged 93. He was born on the 15th of August, 1717. At the age of six years he had the

1810.

small pox, which rendered him totally blind. Before he had attained the age of manhood he became famous as a traveller, (without a guide) hunter, racer, swimmer, fiddler, card player, cock fighter, &c. One evening in the year 1735, he undertook to be guide to a gentleman from York to Harrogate, and performed the task without his companion having discovered that he was blind. It was quite common for him to travel on foot alone from Skipton over the Forrest moor to Knaresbro', or, from Ripon to Knaresbro'. He once travelled from London to Knaresbro' on foot without a guide. In the early part of his career he used to travel to the sea coast for fish, which he took to Leeds and Manchester to sell. He once travelled on horseback from Knaresbro' to Newcastle-upon-Tyne in a day, a distance of 74 miles. At the age of 21 he stood above six feet high, and was very robust. His runaway wedding with a Miss Benson, on the eve of her marriage to another man, caused much gossip at the time of its occurrence, and no little consternation to the bride's relatives, who were well to do. He lived in conjugal felicity with his wife 39 years. In 1745 he became a soldier, and travelled in the ranks in England and Scotland. In 1754 he started a stage waggon between York and Knaresbro', and conducted it himself twice a week. He subsequently became famous as a projector and constructor of public highways, bridges, &c. A few out of a vast number of his works were, the making of part of the turnpike road from Harrogate to Boroughbridge. He made a road between Harrogate and Harewood bridge; made a mile and a half of the road from Chapeltown to Leeds, and lengthened the arch of Sheepscar bridge ten feet; made two miles of Burley-road; made a road between Huddersfield and Wakefield; and part of the road between Wakefield and Halifax. Previous to his death, he published a memoir of his own life, dictated by himself.

In a dreadful storm, on Aug. 4th, several houses in Holbeck and in Hunslet-lane, Leeds, were much injured by lightning, which scorched and wounded some of the inhabitants.——Aug 15th. Joshua Beaumont, of Kirkheaton, was hanged at York, for committing a rape, and afterwards murdering Lucy Brooke, of Aldmonbury, a widow, aged 56.

In September, the following Banking-houses stopped payment, viz.: Seaton, Sons, and Foster, of Pontefract; Seaton, Brooke, and Co., of Huddersfield; and Seaton, Foster, and Co., of Selby. During the year there were no fewer than 1912 bankruptcies in the kingdom; so general was the distress brought upon the nation by a long war.

1810.-1811.

On December 10th, the lord mayor of York laid the first stone of the new Ouse bridge, which was finished in 1820, and the toll abolished in 1829.——Nov. 2nd. Died, aged 27, the princess Amelia, youngest daughter of Geo. III.

1811. On February 3rd, the wool combers of Bradford kept the septennial festival of St. Blaise. St. Blaise was a bishop of Sebaste, in Armenia, and suffered martyrdom A.D. 316. He is the patron saint of the craft of wool combers, and his name was once considered potent in curing sore throats.——On Feb. 4th, at Shipley, near Bradford, a steam-engine boiler burst in the Providence mill, and killed five young persons.

Died on the 6th Feb., the Rev. Miles Atkinson, A.B., minister and founder of St. Paul's church, in Leeds, and vicar of Kippax. It was owing principally to his exertions that Sunday schools were established in Leeds, where he was so long a useful and exemplary minister. His works were collected and published in 2 vols. 8vo., with a memoir prefixed.——The Halifax Journal, a well written and impartial weekly newspaper, was discontinued Feb. 23rd, after existing nearly ten years.——That stupendous work of art, the tunnel of the Huddersfield canal, was finished April 4th, after a labour of eighteen years.

It became an object of importance with Wellington, early in this year, to obtain possession of the Spanish fortresses which had been seized by the French. On the 22nd of April, he reconnoitred Badajos, and soon after laid siege to Almeida. Marshal Massena, advancing to raise the siege, was met on fair terms at Fuentes d'Onoro, May 5th, and repulsed. Almeida, consequently fell into the hands of the British. General Beresford, at the head of another body of British forces, gained the bloody battle of Albuera (a description of which is given below) over Soult, and thereby protected the siege of Badajos, which however, was soon after abandoned. During the same season, general Graham, in command of a third body of troops, gained the battle of Barossa. General Hill had also a dashing enterprise at Arroyo de Molinos, where the gallant officer surprised Girard, dispersed his force, captured all his cannon, and 1700 cavalry of the Imperial guard. At the end of a campaign, in which the French were upon the whole unsuccessful, Wellington retired once more into Portugal.

*Battle of Albuera.* On the 16th of May, 1811, was fought the battle of Albuera—one of the bloodiest conflicts upon record. Marshal Beresford was at the head of the allied

1811.

forces consisting of about 31,000 men, and marshal Soult commanded 23,000 veteran French troops. The battle commenced at nine o'clock in the morning and continued until two in the afternoon. The enemy commenced the attack by marching a strong body of cavalry and a division of infantry opposite the allied right. The British guns in the centre, at once opened upon the moving mass and ploughed through its columns with great effect; but still the enemy pressed on. The Spaniards were at length put in disorder at all points, and the whole heights on which they stood fell into the enemy's hands, who immediately placed their batteries in such a position as to command the whole field of battle. General Wm. Stewart bravely but rashly endeavoured to restore the battle, and pushing his brigade up the hill he mounted for greater dispatch by columns of companies. The French light cavalry literally cut to pieces each regiment as it crowned the ridge. All seemed now lost. The allies were all in confusion, and to make matters worse, a Spanish and English regiment were firing in mutual error, upon each other. Orders were being issued by Beresford to commence a retreat, when colonel Hardinge saw that the battle might yet be won, and, without the marshal's permission, he ordered the fourth division and a brigade of the 2nd to advance. These brave men attacked the French on both flanks as well as in front. For a moment the storm of grape poured from Ruty's well-served artillery staggered the fusileers; but it was only for a moment, though Soult rushed into the thickest of the fire and encouraged and animated his men; though the cavalry gathered on their flank and threatened it with destruction, on went those noble regiments, volley after volley falling into the crowded ranks of the enemy, and cheer after cheer pealing to heaven in answer to the clamorous outcry of the French, as the boldest urged the others forward. Unable to bear the withering fire, the shattered columns of the French were no longer able to sustain themselves—the masses were driven over the ridge—and trampling each other down, the shattered column sought refuge at the bottom of the hill. The battle was ended, and on that bloody height stood the conquerors. The loss of the allies in killed and wounded was more than 6000 men. The enemy had two generals of division killed and five wounded, and their loss was 9,500 men. Both armies claimed a victory; but the title rested indubitably with the allies.

On June 1st, a storm of wind blew down ten stately

1811.

oaks at Calverley lodge.——June 4th. His royal highness George prince of Wales, when prince regent, presented the city of York with a full length likeness of himself, habited in the robes of the garter, and accompanied with his black valet, painted by Hoppner. It was presented to the lord mayor and commonalty, to be placed in their state-room.——At five o'clock in the morning of the 25th of June, this year, Sir John Throckmorton, bart., presented two sheep to Mr. Coxeter, of Greengham mills, Newbury, Berks, for the purpose of proving that a coat could be made from the wool before night. The sheep were immediately shorn, and the wool being sorted, &c., it passed through the usual process of scouring, dyeing, scribbling, spinning, (on the jenny) weaving, (by hand) and a fine kersey cloth was manufactured before four o'clock in the afternoon. The cloth was then put into the hands of tailors, who completed the coat at twenty minutes past six, and Sir John had the pleasure of appearing in it at a public dinner at seven !

June 27th. In the house of peers, lord Stanhope brought in a bill to make it illegal to give more money for guineas, half-guineas, &c. than the value they lawfully bear; and to make it also illegal to take bank of England notes at a less value than they purport to be equal thereto; this bill afterwards passed both houses of parliament.——On the 15th of July, the remains of Sir Thomas Pilkington, bart., of Chevet, were interred in Wakefield church, in the vault which was built by Sir John Pilkington, knight, in 1745.

Wm. Hodgson, a youth of 19 years, was condemned at York, for a rape on a stout single woman, (Harriet Halliday) but as the public feeling was much against the prosecution, which was supposed to be the result of malice, the Judge respited the execution of his sentence till Nov. 23rd, previous to which the distressed prisoner received the royal clemency on condition of entering the army: his discharge was purchased soon after.——On August 26th, Messrs. Tennant, Shaw, and Cobb's works, at Hillhouse, bank, Leeds, were burnt to the ground, as also was Hutchinson and Co's scribbling mill, at Holbeck, on August 29th, together with the dwelling-house of the resident partner.

On Sept. 2nd, the first stone of the Leeds court house and prison was laid by the mayor and corporation. It is a massive stone building, and was completed in 1813, from designs by Mr. Taylor, then an architect of Leeds. The principal front consists of a centre and two wings; the former has a portico of four Corinthian columns, support-

1811.

ing a pediment. The wings have panels, highly wrought in bas relief, containing the fleece, the emblem of the town, and the fasces, as the insignia of justice, &c. The basement story, which is entirely arched with stone, consists of an open ground arcade, adjoining which are cells for prisoners. Above is the police office. The gaoler's house &c., commands the prison court. The principal law courts, &c., have been held in the upper stories. It is no longer a corporate building, all the business having been removed (1859) to the Town Hall.

Sept. 9th, died, aged 56, Sir W. M. Milner, bart., of Nun Appleton, who served the office of lord mayor of York in 1787, and again in 1798, and was elected representative for that city in 1790.——Huddersfield parish church was re-pewed, and graced with a new organ.——Feb. 6th. The prince of Wales was sworn into the office of prince regent.——The workshop of Messrs. Butterworth, Livesey, and Butterworth, engravers, Leeds, was struck by lightning; the electric matter being discharged down a bell wire, near a cupboard, containing glass, china, silver tea-spoons, and a britannia metal tea-pot; the spoons, being laid across each other, were partially fused at the points of intersection, and adhered firmly together. A circular hole was melted in the side of the tea-pot, and the cupboard wrenched from the wall. A number of flower pots, containing shrubs, &c. were driven from their places in the window seat with great violence, and dashed against the wainscot on the opposite side of the sitting room. Mrs. Dinah and Mrs. Ann Butterworth were seated near the cupboard, but providentially sustained no injury. John Atkinson, an apprentice, who afterwards wrought many years in the bank of England, where he died, was struck by the lightning, forced from the seat on which he was working, and deprived of the use of both his legs; to which he was however restored in a considerable degree, in little more than a week. One of his employers, Mr. Wm. Butterworth, had been previously twice struck with the same powerful agent, when traversing the mighty deep.

A very remarkable comet discovered by Hangergues was visible this year, from March to October. On September 7th, it presented a tail 50 degrees in length, bent off in two branches. These branches did not proceed from the comet itself; but were hung together at a slight distance from it, and separated from it by a dark interval, so that they enclosed the comet as a parabola does its focus. September 20th, the tail was 10 degress. The first week in



1811.-1812.

October the tail was 25 degrees long, and about 6 degrees broad. It was supposed to have a considerable influence on the heat of the weather, in September and October, being within 100,000,000 miles of the earth.

In 1811 Mr. Blenkinsop, of Leeds, constructed a locomotive steam-engine, for which he took out a patent. A racked or tooth rail was laid along one side of the road, into which the toothed wheel of his locomotive worked as pinions work into a rack. The boiler of his engine was supported by a carriage with four wheels without teeth, and rested immediately upon the axles. The wheels were entirely independent of the working parts of the engine, and therefore merely supported its weight on the rails, the progress being effected by means of the cogged wheel working into the cogged rail. Mr. Blenkinsop's engines began running on the railway extending from the Middleton collieries to the town of Leeds, a distance of about three miles and a half, on the 12th of August, 1812. They continued for many years to be one of the principal curiosities of the neighbourhood, and were visited by strangers from all parts. In the year 1816, the grand duke Nicholas (afterwards Emperor) of Russia, observed the working of Blenkinsop's locomotive with curious interest and expressions of no slight admiration. An engine dragged behind it as many as thirty coal waggons at a speed of about three miles and a quarter per hour.

1812. On the 19th of January, *Ciudad Rodrigo*, in Spain, surrendered to the British troops under lord Wellington, after a siege of 12 days. The sacrifice of life was very severe. The casualties attendant on the siege and storm amounted to above 1,000; in addition to which large numbers were killed after the place was taken, by the accidental explosion of a magazine; 80 French officers, and 1,500 men were taken prisoners.——On the 27th of March, *Badajoz* surrendered to the English, after a siege of ten days. The loss of the victors in killed and wounded amounted to 5,000 men. 1300 of the French were killed and wounded, and 4,000 were taken prisoners.

In the beginning of July, the opposing armies once more gradually approached each other near *Salamanca*. A contest of manœuvres took place on the *Formes*, in which neither side for some time gained any advantage. At length, on the 22nd of July, lord Wellington becoming utterly destitute of the means of keeping the field, determined to retreat to *Ciudad Rodrigo*. Marmont perceiving this, despatched Thomiere's *corps d'armee* with fifty guns, by a circuitous



1812.

route to turn the left of the British army, and thus to prevent its retreat. By this move Thomiere's *corps d'armee* extending two or three miles in length, was severed from the main body of Marmont's troops. This blunder was an enormous one, and the British general after an exulting exclamation of "At last I have them!" hastened to take advantage of the error. Staff-officers went off at a gallop in every direction; the infantry stood to their arms; the cavalry vaulted to their saddles; the artillery unlimbered; and Marmont's weakened army was instantly attacked in overwhelming force. The French marshal saw his error, and officer after officer was despatched to command the return of Thomière. They never reached him. As the head of Thomière's heading column emerged upon the Ciudad, Rodrigo road, where they expected to find the British in full retreat, general Pakenham fell like a thunderbolt upon his rear, and rolled up the long straggling line with hideous slaughter, to which no effectual resistance could be opposed. Marmont's heart died within him at the sight. Brave as steel he struggled desperately to maintain the combat, but the explosion of a shell grievously wounding him, he was carried out of the battle. Clausel succeeded to the command, but the fortune of the day could not be changed. The French army was utterly defeated, and driven off the field with the loss of two eagles, eleven pieces of artillery, 7,000 prisoners, and a vast number of slain and wounded men. The total number of the killed, wounded, and missing of the allied troops was 7,264, of whom 690 British, 304 Portuguese, and two Spanish were killed; and 4,270 British, 1552 Portuguese, and four Spanish wounded.

On the 12th of August following, Wellington made his triumphant entry into Madrid, amidst the acclamations of the inhabitants, and was immediately afterwards appointed generalissimo of the Spanish armies. On the 18th of the same month he was created marquis of Wellington by the prince regent of England. The next great incidents of the war were the unsuccessful attack upon the fortress of *Burgos*, numerouslly garrisoned by French troops, commanded by marshal Clausel, the consequent retreat upon Portugal, and the evacuation of Madrid.

Sep. 15th. Napoleon having entered Moscow, the ancient capital of Russia, the Russians set fire to the city before leaving it, which event compelled Napoleon to evacuate the place, and make a rapid retreat to France. It is said that in this retreat, 130,000 men perished of cold, fatigue and famine. Out of above 500,000 men who started in the Russian campaign, not above 87,000 returned.

1812.

March 26th. A dreadful earthquake occurred in South America, which almost totally destroyed the city of Caraccas; 4,500 houses, 19 churches and convents, with all the other public buildings, were levelled to the ground; many thousands of the inhabitants were buried in the ruins. The seaport of Laguayra was also laid in ruins, and several other places suffered severely.

On May the 8th, the first stone of the Leeds National school (erected near the parish church, on the site of the ancient tithe barn, belonging to the rectory of Leeds), was laid by the Rev. P. Haddon, then vicar of Leeds, and the school was opened February 7th, 1813.——At the general election this year, lord Milton and Mr. Lascelles were returned members for Yorkshire without opposition. Mr. Stuart Wortley, (afterwards the first lord Wharncliffe,) offered himself, but withdrew. Mr. Wilberforce, one of late members, retired after having represented Yorkshire twenty-eight years.——Oct. 1st. Mr. Sadler ascended with his balloon from Belvedere house, near Dublin, at one p.m., with the wind at S.W., at three he was nearly over the Isle of Man, and the wind blowing fresh, he found himself rapidly approaching the Welsh coast; at four he had a distinct view of Skerry lighthouse, but the wind shifting, he was taken off and lost sight of the land. After hovering about a long time, he discovered five vessels beating down the channel; he precipitated himself into the sea, but the vessels taking no notice of him, he threw out some ballast, and quickly regained his situation in the air. Night now coming on, he observed three other vessels, he again descended, and, after great exertions, he was taken on board of a herring fisher, from the Isle of Man.

On the 11th of May, the premier, Mr. Perceval, was shot in the lobby of the House of Commons, by John Bellingham, a merchant engaged in the trade to Russia, whom some private losses had rendered insane. He was shortly after executed at the Old Bailay, London.

*Luddites.* Vast multitudes of working people were this year thrown out of employment by the stagnation of manufacturers, and manifested their feelings in commotion and riot. The peninsular war was raging, general distress was felt, a large number of agitators inflamed the minds of the people, and riots were prevailing in many counties. The commercial difficulties to which the country was exposed, the scarcity of work, and the high price of provisions, in the first instance, excited this unhappy spirit. The disposition to a system of combined

1812.

operations first manifested itself in the neighbourhood of the town of Nottingham at the close of 1811, in the destruction of some newly-invented stocking frames, by small parties of men, principally stocking weavers, who had assembled from the neighbourhood. In Nottingham, 1,000 frames had been broken, and the lives of the inhabitants held at the mercy of a ferocious mob. By degrees they became more numerous and more formidable; and, having obtained arms, disturbed the whole country between Nottingham and Mansfield, destroying frames almost without resistance. An imaginary personage styled general, alias Ned Lud, was the reputed commander of the rioters.

Some mills at Rawden, a village about eight miles from Leeds, were, on the morning of the 24th of March, attacked by a body of armed men, who proceeded with the greatest circumspection to seize the watchmen, and to place guards at every neighbouring cottage; they afterwards entered the premises and destroyed the machinery. Other buildings were entered at this place and in the neighbourhood, and the goods which they contained were cut to pieces and destroyed.

On the 9th of April, about 300 armed men attacked some mills near Wakefield, and destroyed the valuable machinery and property. They were seen some time before this on the road, marching in regular sections, preceded by a mounted party with drawn swords, and followed by the same number mounted as a rear guard. The inhabitants were intimidated. In May, the store-house of arms for the local militia, at Sheffield, was surprised, and the arms destroyed and carried off.

On the night of Saturday, the 11th of April, a most desperate attack was made upon the mill of Mr. William Cartwright, at a place called Rawfolds, in the township of Liversedge, by a considerable body of men, to the number of some hundreds, who were armed with pistols, hatchets, bludgeons, &c. Mr. Cartwright, supported by four of his own workmen and five soldiers, fixed themselves inside the mill, and met the assailants by a vigorous and well sustained discharge of musketry. In the course of the engagement, several desperate attempts were made to break down the doors, and force a way into the mill, but none of them proved successful, and, after a conflict of twenty minutes, in which two of the assailants were killed, and a considerable number wounded, they withdrew in confusion, leaving the gallant little garrison masters of the field. The bravery displayed by Mr. Cartwright, in the de-

1812.

fence of his premises, excited the public admiration, and a subscription amounting to upwards of £3,000, was entered into, and conferred upon that gentleman and his family.

The first intention of the Luddites was simply to destroy an obnoxious piece of machinery; the next step was nocturnal plunder for arms; this was followed by the assembling of a sort of insurrectionary army, and, after the defeat at Rawfolds, George Mellor, the general Lud of the district, announced to his infatuated followers that the system of operations must be changed, and that instead of attacking the mills, they must shoot the masters. The first victim marked out for assassination was Mr. William Horsfall, (father of Abraham Horsfall, Esq., of Leeds, solicitor), a considerable manufacturer, at Marsden, by whom a quantity of the obnoxious machinery was employed. Mr. Horsfall, it appears, had expressed himself in strong terms against the delusions under which the workmen laboured, and was probably on this account, selected out for destruction. To effect the diabolical purpose, George Mellor, William Thorpe, Thomas Smith, and Benjamin Walker, being each of them provided with pistols, repaired in the afternoon of Tuesday, the 28th of April, to a small plantation near Crosland moor, on the way from Huddersfield to Marsden; and as Mr. Horsfall returned from the market, about six o'clock in the evening, two of the assassins discharged their pistols, and inflicted upon him a number of wounds, of which he languished till the morning of the Thursday following, when he expired, on the 30th of April. To such a pitch were the atrocities of these miscreants carried, that they nearly killed a young woman in the streets of Leeds, because she had been seen near the spot where a murder was committed, and might have been able to give evidence to lead to the discovery of the murderers. At this place also the rioters determined on the destruction of all goods, which had been prepared otherwise than by manual operation, and proceeded to execute their purpose with unusual dexterity.

On the 18th of April, Mr. Cartwright was twice shot at on the high road; shots were also fired at a constable and magistrate, and several attempts were made to assassinate general Campbell, who commanded the troops at Leeds.

Amongst the mischief committed by, or attributed to the "Luddites" of 1812, was the burning of the "gig-mill," at Oatlands, near Leeds, and Hawks-worth corn mills, near Otley, and the destruction of the machinery in the mills or dressing shops of

1812.

Joseph Hirst, of Huddersfield; William Hinchliffe, of Leymoor; John Garner, of Honley; Clement Dyson, of Dungeon; Mr. Roberts, of Crosland; Frances Vickerman, of Taylor hill; William Thompson and Brothers, of Rawden; Mr. Smith, of Snowgatehead, near Holmfirth; Joseph Brook, of Horn-coat; James Brook, of Reins; and Joseph Foster, of Horbury. About £500 worth of cloth was torn and cut into shreds in the finishing shops of Messrs. Dickenson, Carr, and Shann, in Water-lane, Leeds, and besides the destruction of their machinery, many of the above-named manufacturers had their houses plundered and their furniture and windows broken to pieces. A vigorous system of police was established by a neighbouring magistrate; (the late Sir Joseph Radcliffe, of Milns bridge, who received the honour of a baronetcy for his intrepid conduct at this alarming crisis). Sixty-six persons were, in the course of the year, apprehended and committed to the county gaol, on various charges connected with these disturbances; and in January following, a special commission of oyer and terminer was held at York, for the purpose of trying the offenders. The proceedings of the court were of the most solemn and impressive kind. Eighteen of the prisoners, including three of the murderers of Mr. Horsfall, were capitally convicted, and seventeen of them were executed, on Friday, the 16th of January, 1813. Of the others, six of them were convicted of simple felony, and transported for seven years, and the remainder were either liberated on bail or acquitted.

It is singular that the districts in which the riots were carried to the greatest excess, were those in which the want of employment for the working manufacturers had been the least felt.

But the form which the associations assumed was alarming; a general secret committee had the superintendence of all the societies, each of which had its own secret committee for conducting the correspondence, and pursuing measures in concert with the societies established in other districts in the country. To ensure secrecy, an oath was administered to the initiated, of the most detestable nature, an oath which bound him by the fear of assassination never to reveal any of the proceedings of his brethren; and which farther bound him to assassinate, or to pursue with the utmost vengeance, all persons who should be guilty of discovering their secret schemes. As this oath is of a very singular nature, it may be interesting to insert it.

"I, A. B. of my own voluntary will, do declare and solemnly swear that I never will reveal to any person or persons under the canopy of heaven, the names of the persons who compose this secret committee, their proceedings, meetings, places of abode, dress, features, connexions, or anything else that might lead to a discovery of the same either by word or deed, or sign, under the penalty of being sent out of the world by the first brother who shall meet me, and my name and character blotted out of existence, and never to be remembered but with contempt and abhorrence; and I further now do swear, that I will use my best endeavours to punish by death any traitor or traitors should any rise up amongst us, wherever I can find him or them; and though he should fly to the verge of nature, I will pursue him with unceasing vengeance. So help me God, and bless me to keep this my oath inviolable."

Money was levied by the rioters, on the villages in which they destroyed the frames; and as the number of the insurgents increased, the outrages were, by the month of December, extended over Derbyshire and Leicestershire. At the spring assizes, in Nottingham, this year, seven persons were convicted, and sentenced to transportation. The ancient system of watch and ward was renewed in the disturbed counties, and the legislature interfered to increase the punishment for the destruction of frames. At Stockport, in Cheshire, subscriptions were instituted for the persons in custody in Nottinghamshire, anonymous letters were circulated threatening still farther devastations on machinery, and attempts were made to carry these threats into execution. Ashton-under-Lyne, Eccles, and Middletown, became scenes of confusion. At the last-mentioned place, a most daring attack was, on the 20th of April, made on the manufactory of a Mr. Barton, in which the rioters were at first repulsed, and five of their number killed by the military assembled to protect the works; but a second attack was made two days afterwards, in which Mr. Barton's dwelling house was burned to the ground.

At Stockport, the riots were renewed about the middle of April, and a regular system of discipline was established among the insurgents. A meeting of rioters on a heath, about two miles from Stockport, for the purposes of military discipline, was discovered and dispersed on the morning of the 15th of April. Manchester now became a scene of disorder: on the 26th and 27th of April, some



1812.

thousands of strangers appeared in the town: the local militia was called out, and a considerable military force assembled, but the strangers had dispersed by the 28th. Nocturnal meetings, however, were held for the purposes of military exercise, arms were seized in various places by the disaffected, and contributions in money were levied. Bolton-in-the-Moors, Newcastle-under-Lyne, Wigan, Warrington, and other towns, exhibited symptoms of disturbance; a spirit of tumult also appeared at Carlisle; and at Huddersfield, in Yorkshire, the proceedings of the rioters were marked with peculiar atrocity.

A large manufactory at West Houghton, in the neighbourhood of Bolton-in-the-Moors, was, with great dexterity, destroyed on the 24th of April, in spite of every effort which could be made for its protection. The plan of attack was, in this instance, executed with singular ability. The rioters first of all assembled; but on the appearance of a military force, they immediately dispersed. The military having returned to their quarters, however, the rioters re-appeared, assailed and forced the manufactory, set it on fire, and again dispersed, before the military could be brought to the spot.

A letter in the *Times*, dated Dec. 3rd, 1812, gives an account of further riots at Huddersfield:—"The spirit of Luddism, which was thought to be extinct, has again appeared and raged with more than usual violence. Last Sunday night, about a quarter past nine o'clock, a number of men armed with pistols or short guns, one of them with the lower part of his face covered with a black handkerchief, entered the house of Mr. W. Walker, of Newhall, near Huddersfield, cloth manufacturer, and after taking from him a gun, a pistol, and powder horn, demanded his money, and obtained from him about £15 in notes, the whole of which they offered to return him, except one, if he would give them a guinea in gold: not being aware of this decoy, he took out a small purse containing five guineas, which they immediately seized, and took all the gold without returning the notes. The chief then proceeded to ransack his papers, while others of the party presented their pieces at Mr. Walker, and after cautioning the family on pain of death not to quit the house for two hours after, they departed.

"The same gang on the same night proceeded to the house of a shopkeeper, at Far town, from whom they took a gun, some silver, and notes to the amount of £20, together with a pair of silver tea tongs, and two silver tea spoons



1812.

not content with this booty, they went into the cellar, and seized a bottle of rum and some provisions. From thence they went to a farmer's house, near Fixby; four men entered, two of them armed with blunderbusses, a third with a gun, and the other with a pistol; their first demand was for arms, but on being told that the family had neither arms nor money, they ordered "Enoch, Captain, Serjeant, and Hatchetmen" to enter; but on promising to find them some money, they retired at the word of command. Here they received £5. They next proceeded to the house of Mr. James Brook, of Bracken hall, in Far Town, where, after conducting themselves in an outrageous manner, they took his watch, a pound note, and four shillings in silver."

The Leeds Commercial Bank, (Messrs. Fenton, Scott, Nicholson, and Smith), stopped payment January 8th, 1812. This company subsequently paid 20s. in the pound to its creditors.——On April 14th, a large riotous mob, at Sheffield, broke into the local Militia store room in that town, and destroyed 800 guns and bayonets.

In August, the best wheat sold at Leeds for £9 per quarter, in consequence of which a riot occurred in the market on the 18th, headed by a woman dignified with the title of lady Lud. The populace furiously assailed the dealers in the market, and seized a quantity of corn which they threw about the streets. The mob proceeded to the present Mill-Green corn mill, called Holbeck Water mill, then in the occupation of Mr. Joseph Shackleton, corn miller, where they broke a many windows in the mill and in the house adjoining, and tore up the wooden pailings round the house. The mob also threw stones through the chamber windows of the house and shop in Water-lane, now occupied by Mrs. Middleton, but then occupied by Mr. Jonathan Shackleton.

The first stone of the Leeds Royal Lancasterian free school, situate in Alfred-street, Boar-lane, was laid Jan. 24th, by William Hey, Esq. This commodious building, 74 feet by 46 feet, and 30 feet high, is of brick, and lighted by a large lantern and other windows, and will accommodate 500 boys. It cost £2,092 13s. 10d. The method of instruction was originally laid down by Mr. Joseph Lancaster. The school is supported chiefly by annual subscriptions, occasional benefactions, and the children's pence. There were, during 1856, 277 boys in course of teaching, the cost of whose education averaged 12s. 6d. per annum. The indefatigable master, Mr. Thurnell, who

1812-1813.

has been for 25 years at the head of this school, devotes great attention to the moral training of the youths under his care. A library is established for the use of the elder boys, and the elements of mathematical drawing are taught. Children are admitted every Monday morning, by applying at the school. In the first instance, this highly useful establishment was held in the old Assembly Room, Kirkgate.——About 40 lbs. weight of Roman copper coin was dug up on Wakefield Outwood, where the Romans are supposed to have had a station.

1813. In the beginning of this year the marquis of Wellington (who had been appointed colonel of the Royal Horse Guards, and created a knight of the garter) visited Cadiz and sailed thence to Lisbon, where he was received by the population with great enthusiasm. Wellington soon reorganised the allied troops, and advanced rapidly through Spain. King Joseph and his marshals retiring to concentrate their forces near *Vittoria*, where on the 21st June, 1813, they accepted battle, and the total irremediable rout of the French army was the result. That army lost their cannon, stores, a vast number of killed, wounded, and about 1,000 prisoners, and king Joseph was obliged to save himself on horseback, leaving behind his carriages, treasure, and baggage. The loss of the allies in this battle is said to have been 700 killed and 4,000 wounded. The French confess to a loss of 7,000 killed and wounded, but which was probably not less than 10,000. By the 6th of July, the last division of Joseph Bonaparte's army was driven beyond the Pyrenees. In forty-five days from the opening of this campaign, Wellington had led the allied army from the frontiers of Portugal to the French border, marching 500 miles without a check. He had defeated the combined forces of the enemy in a general action, taken all their artillery, and had driven them from one strong post to another, till, shorn of his enormous booty, the usurper king was hunted from the soil of Spain. July 11th to 25th. An unsuccessful attempt was made to take San Sebastian by storm, when the loss of the British was nearly 900 men; but on the 19th of August the siege was resumed, and on the 31st of the same month the place was taken by assault by the British troops, under the direction of Sir Thomas Graham, with the loss of 2,623 men killed and wounded. The loss of the enemy amounted to 2,600 *hors de combat*. The French emperor had, previously to this siege, sent Soult from Germany to arrest the conquering march of Wellington upon France; and while the storm of war was bursting

1813.

upon the devoted city, the terrible battles of the Pyrenees were being fought. Lord Wellington says of these battles, "The French army must have suffered greatly. Between the 25th of July and the 2nd of August, they were engaged seriously ten times. Their officers declare they have lost 15,000 men; our casualties are 6,000." Soult gallantly, if vainly, attempted to perform his task; but the hour of defeat had struck. Lord Wellington step by step pushed aside or over-leaped all intervening obstacles, and terminated the struggle by the bitter fight before *Toulouse*. (April 11th, 1814). Soult had expressed his determination to "bury himself and army under the ruins of *Toulouse* rather than suffer himself to be driven away," therefore the struggle was obstinate and terrific. Soult in the end was repulsed with great loss. The loss of the allied army was very severe; 595 killed, and 4,046 wounded.

January 28th. Died Henry Redhead Yorke, a celebrated politician.

In March, two Roman stone coffins were dug up in a field nearly opposite to Burton Stone, at Clifton, near York, each containing a skeleton entire, with the teeth completely perfect. The coffins measured seven feet four inches long, two feet three inches broad, and one foot ten inches deep; they were of thick, light coloured grit; one side of each had been carved and pannelled, but the other was left quite plain; the carved sides were placed against each other when found, and each was covered with a lid, curiously made in the shape of the roof of a modern dwelling-house, sloping both ways, with small uniform projections on one side, but hewn flat on the other.

The Chapel at Wortley was erected about the year 1780, under the influence of the late John Smyth, Esq., the lord of the manor. A dispute upon the subject of the patronage, however, consigned it into the hands of the Dissenters, by whom for some years it was occupied. The trustees and the vicar of Leeds offered to Mr. Smyth the patronage of the chapel for two lives, but he required the perpetual advowson. This originated its temporary alienation. But in 1813 the trustees and the vicar agreed to convey the perpetual advowson to his son, who sold his right in the chapel to three of the inhabitants of Wortley, upon condition that the patronage should be vested in five trustees, of whom the lord of the manor should always be one. Upon the death of two trustees, the trust is to be filled by the survivors. The chapel was consecrated 1813, by the archbishop of York, and the endowment was constituted by

1813.

the pew rents and surplice fees, and by an engagement upon the part of the trustees that they would advance two hundred pounds for the purpose of procuring three hundred pounds more from the parliamentary fund. The trustees, however, advanced £400, and received £600; besides which the governors added out of the parliamentary fund £1,400, to be expended in the purchase of freehold land, for the benefit of the incumbent. The ministers who have officiated in this chapel since its consecration, have been, the Rev. George Rickards, the Rev. Mr. Kemplay, the Rev. N. Godfrey, and the Rev. W. Pettitt, the present incumbent.

Thomas Robinson was born at Wakefield, in 1749, and was educated at the grammar school of his native place, next at Trinity college, Cambridge, where he was elected fellow in 1772. Became curate of St. Martin, in Leicester; and, in 1778, was presented to the living of St. Mary, in that town, which he held till his death, in 1813. He was calvinistic in his sentiments, and firmly attached to the constitution of the established church. He published Scripture Characters; the Christian System unfolded; and sermons and tracts.——The first stone of the new church, called St. John in the Wilderness, situated at Marshaw bridge, in the parish of Halifax, was laid March 15th.——Messrs. Fenton, Murray, and Wood, of Leeds, on the 18th of June, exhibited a new steam boat in the river Aire, when the novelty of the exhibition attracted an immense crowd of spectators.——On July 1st, the Jubilee coach, on leaving Halifax for Leeds was overturned in its descent to the North bridge, and three persons killed, viz., Joshua Milner, the venerable beadle of Halifax; Mr. John Sykes, an eminent engine builder, of Bolton-le-Moors; and David Brotherton, the unfortunate driver of the vehicle, several others had their limbs broken, and were dreadfully bruised. The coach had only commenced running the preceding day.

On July 18th, died, aged 73, J. Dodsworth, Esq., who endowed a school at Water Poppleton with ten pounds a year for ten scholars.

On July 22nd, the lightning killed a boy on Greetland-edge, and tore to pieces a large oak tree, near Kirkburton.

On November 2nd, Mr. Whincup's shelling mill, in Walmgate, York, with a great quantity of corn, was completely destroyed by fire: the damage was estimated at £3,000.——On November 30th, the New Inn, in King-street, Huddersfield, was burnt down, and the three adjoining houses greatly damaged; the fire raged three hours, and a servant girl and boy perished in the flames.

1813.-1814.

On December 1st, was a general illumination in Leeds, Otley, &c., in honour of the victories gained by the allied forces over the French, at Leipsic. On the 27th and 28th, there were great rejoicings and festivities at Halifax; on the first day the gentry and manufacturers feasted themselves, and on the second day they entertained the people in a field, at the bottom of Horten-street, where a large ox was roasted.——On December 11th, died at Royds hall, near Bradford, Joseph Dawson, Esq., aged 73 years. He was justly esteemed one of the most enlightened, useful, and benevolent men in Yorkshire, being well versed in classical literature, mathematics, mineralogy, geology, and theology. He left a lasting monument of his scientific skill, ingenuity, and activity, in the extensive iron works at Low Moor, which, twenty years before his death arose under his auspices, and were arranged and established by him in conjunction with several other wealthy and intelligent individuals.——At eight o'clock in the evening of December 28th, an alarming fire broke out in a detached building belonging to the York lunatic asylum, when two of the patients perished in the flames. The roof, and the interior of several of the rooms were consumed. The walls sustained but little injury.——This year, at Leeds, a Methodist missionary association was formed, and the Leeds district national society was incorporated with the York diocesan society.——The lay impropiators repaired the chancel of Wakefield parish church, in consequence of an action brought against them by the churchwardens.

1814. While lord Wellington had been advancing to the Pyrenees, the allied powers of Russia, Prussia, and Austria, were, by steady though cautious movements, proceeding in an opposite direction to France, driving Napoleon before them, and increasing their own force as the various states became emancipated by their presence. On the 30th of March, the allies entered Paris in triumph; and in the course of a few days, ratified a treaty with Napoleon, by which he agreed to resign the government of France, and live for the future as only sovereign of Elba, a small island in the Mediterranean. France was deprived of all the acquisitions gained both under the republic and the empire, and restored to the rule of the ancient royal family in the person of Louis XVIII. Peace was proclaimed in London on the 20th of June. The war terminated, it was hoped permanently, and the British troops returned home. Their renowned commander was created, on the 3rd of May, marquis of Douro and duke of Wellington; and in June,

1814.

£400,000, making, with a previous grant of £100,000 half a million of money, was awarded him by the House of Commons.

On January 10th, died, aged 73, Mr. Joseph Linsley, who for upwards of thirty-four years was governor of the Leeds workhouse, and filled that important, though often unthankful office with infinite credit to himself and advantage to the town. This benevolent yet economical guardian of the poor was often visited by the philanthropic Howard, who wrote as follows:—"The poor of Leeds are well fed, and taken care of; indeed they, and the people at large, are happy in having a worthy and very honest man for the governor of the workhouse, a Mr. Linsley, who was formerly a manufacturer in the town. His temper and disposition, as well as those of his wife, seem peculiarly adapted to their charge; mildness and attention to the complaints of the meanest, joined with firmness of manner, gain the respect of those who are placed under their care. I am at the same time convinced, by his open manner in showing me the books, that he transacts the business of the town with rectitude and economy." He was attended to his grave by a great number of the respectable inhabitants.—The frost was so intense in January, that all the canals were frozen, and many of the roads blocked up with snow. Mr. John Skelbeck, of Huddersfield, was frozen to death, on the road near Healaugh; he had with him his son, ten years old, who was found next day almost lifeless, in a brickmaker's hut, whither he had fled, after using his feeble exertions to awake his father from the fatal stupor into which the piercing action of the frost had thrown him upon the blanched road, within five hundred yards of his brother's house, to which he and his son were journeying from Tadcaster.

Feb. 4th. A fair was held on the river Thames, between London and Blackfriars bridges, the surface being frozen over. The frost began 27th December, 1813, and continued with little intermission for about thirteen weeks; it was general throughout the three kingdoms, and was more intense than had been felt for seventy-three years. The thermometer was so low as 10 deg. The Lagan was frozen over below the Long bridge, at Belfast. At Kelso, on the 22nd January, an ice fete was held on the Tweed, and fifty gentlemen sat down to dinner.

On March 1st, a large pile of buildings, in the Talbot Inn yard, in Halifax, was burnt to the ground; it con-



1814.

sisted of two wool warehouses, and a large school room. The assembly room immediately adjoining suffered considerably.

March 6th. Lord Cochrane this day effected his escape from the prison of the king's bench, London, and repaired to the House of Commons, where he voted. His lordship had previously been indicted, together with his uncle Mr. Cochrane Johnstone, colonel de Berenger, and Mr. Butt, for a conspiracy, of which they were found guilty. A new trial was moved for June 15th, by some of the parties, which was refused by lord chief justice Ellenborough, on the ground that all the parties did not join in the application for it. On the 21st of June, the prisoners were brought up for judgment, when lord Cochrane and Mr. Butt were sentenced to pay a fine of £1,000 each, these, with the others were further sentenced to be imprisoned twelve months, and to stand one hour in the pillory.—Lord Cochrane, on the 5th of July, was expelled the House of Commons, together with his uncle, the latter being also outlawed; the sentence of the pillory was afterwards remitted. Lord Cochrane successively commanded the fleets of Chili, Peru, Brazil, and Greece, in the struggles of those states for independence.—Oct. 17th. In the brewhouse of H. Meux, London, two beer vats burst suddenly with a tremendous crash, destroying several houses; some lives were lost, and the loss of property was estimated at near 9000 barrels of beer.—Dec. 24th. A treaty of peace between Great Britain and America was signed at Ghent.

On April 7th, the news of the fall of Paris was received in Yorkshire with rapturous exultation, and was soon followed by a general peace, which was celebrated with splendid illuminations and processions, and sumptuous public festivities. As a beneficial memorial of the joy felt at Huddersfield on the return of peace, the inhabitants established a dispensary, under the appellation of the "Huddersfield and Upper Agbrigg Infirmary."

Mr. Sadler, Jun., ascended in his balloon, at York, August 24th, and at Pontefract September 15th. On the latter occasion he was accompanied by Miss Thompson.

Mr. Samuel Birchall, of Leeds, died this year on May 17th, aged 53. He was a member of the society of Friends, an industrious naturalist and antiquary, and author of a work on provincial coins.—A piece of Roman tessellated pavement was discovered in April,



1814.-1815.

adjoining the rampart within Micklegate bar, in the city of York, supposed to have been the ground work of a general's tent. A part of it only could be preserved. The portion discovered measured about twenty-four feet by fifteen feet, and had been very handsome. In the centre were two stags, and around it several beautiful borders. A considerable number of coins of the lower empire, and a quantity of pottery ware, were also discovered.

1815. Representatives from the European powers concerned in the war met at Vienna October 2nd, 1814, in order to settle the disturbed limits of the various countries, and provide against the renewal of a period of war so disastrous. In March of this year, (1815) the proceedings of the congress were interrupted by intelligence that Napoleon had landed in France, and was advancing in triumph to the capital. Though he landed with only a few men, he was everywhere received with affection, and on the 20th of March was reinstated in his capital, which had that morning been left by Louis XVIII. On the 1st of June, Napoleon had 559,000 effective men under arms, of whom 217,000 were ready to take the field. A Prussian army of more than 100,000, under Blucher, and one of about 80,000 British, Germans, and Belgians, under Wellington, were quickly rendezvoused in the Netherlands, while still larger armies of Austrians and Russians, making the whole force above 1,000,000, were rapidly approaching. These professed to make war, not on France, but against Bonaparte alone, whom they denounced as having, by his breach of the treaty, 'placed himself out of the pale of civil and social relations, and incurred the penalty of summary execution' Napoleon, knowing that his enemies would accumulate faster in proportion than his own troops, crossed the frontier on the 14th of June with 120,000 men; resolved to fight Blucher and Wellington separately, if possible. The rapidity of his movements prevented that concert between the Prussian and English generals, which it was their interest to establish. On the 16th of June, Napoleon attacked the Prussian army under Blucher, at Ligny, and compelled him (after a five hours' battle) to retire to Wavre, with a loss of 16,000 men, and several pieces of cannon. Early in the afternoon of the same day, Ney (by veteran troops in very superior numbers) attacked the British at *Les Quatre Bras*, but he was gallantly and successfully

repulsed. The loss of the British and their allies in this battle amounted to 3,750 *hors de combat*. The British suffered most severely, having 316 men killed and 2,156 wounded. The duke of Brunswick fell in the act of rallying his troops, and an immense number of British officers were found among the slain and wounded. On the 17th of June, Wellington being apprised that Blucher had retired on Wavre, also retreated and drew his troops across the road to Brussels, near a place called Waterloo.

*Battle of Waterloo.* On the 18th of June, Napoleon determined to give battle to Wellington. He had a force of not less than 90,000 men, with 296 pieces of artillery; while the British amounted to but 74,400 men, with not more than 150 pieces. The position which Wellington occupied was in front of the hamlet of Mont St. Jean, about a mile and a half in advance of the village of Waterloo. The whole line was formed on a gentle acclivity, the flanks partially secured by small hollows and broken grounds. The two points of the greatest importance in the British position, were, the farm-house of La Haye Sainte, in front of the left centre, which was defended by a Hanoverian battalion; and the Chateau of Hougomont, with its wood and garden in advance of the right centre, which was held by part of the guards and some companies of Nassau riflemen. Wellington considered this to be the key of his position, and great attention was bestowed upon its defence. Shortly before eleven o'clock, the enemy's columns were put in motion against Hougomont, and the battle of Waterloo began. Comprising three divisions, nearly 30,000 strong, the French attack was made in close columns, supported by the fire of numerous batteries. As the heads of the enemy's masses rose above the hollow ground which had hitherto concealed their movements, the British artillery opened with round and case shot; and the French and Nassau light troops, commenced a sharp and rapid fusilade; but the latter was forced to yield to numbers—the wood was carried—and the Chateau and its dependencies were vigorously and resolutely assaulted; but the defence was able as it was obstinate. The fire of the English musketry fell on the French masses with rapid precision. The French gave ground—the guards charged from the enclosures—part of the wood was recovered—and the fire of the British howitzers cleared the remainder of it from the

1815.

enemy. The French attacks were renewed again and again against Hougoumont, but they were as unavailing as they had proved before; every new effort of the enemy increased the slaughter, but failed in abating either the spirit or the obstinacy of the defence. At length the French artillery opened with shells upon the house; the old tower of Hougoumont was quickly in a blaze; the fire reached the chapel, and many of the wounded, both assailants and defenders, there perished miserably; but still the guards nobly held the place, and Hougoumont remained untaken. The assault upon Hougoumont was accompanied by a heavy fire from more than two hundred pieces of artillery upon the whole British line. The obstinacy with which Napoleon endeavoured to win this important post, may be best estimated by the terrible expenditure of life his repeated attacks occasioned. 10,000 men were killed and wounded in these attempts.

While these terrible attacks were continued against the right centre, the left of the allied position was also furiously assailed. One success only crowned the incessant efforts of Napoleon—the temporary possession of the farmhouse of La Haye Sainte, which was surrendered after a heroic defence of two hours. The continued attacks of the enemy on all points was exhausting the strength of the allied army and making its situation every moment more critical. Though masses of the enemy had fallen, thousands came on anew. Many battalions of the British were miserably reduced. The loss of individual regiments was prodigious. One (the 27th) had 400 men mowed down in square without drawing a trigger. Another, (the 92nd) when not 200 men were left, rushed into a French column and routed it with the bayonet; a third, (the 33rd) when nearly annihilated, sent to require support: none could be given, and the commanding officer was told that he must “stand or fall where he was.”

Thus the battle raged until evening came, and yet no crisis. Wellington as he viewed the diminished numbers of his brave battalions still presenting the same fearless attitude that they had done when the battle opened, felt that to human endurance there is a limit, and turned his glass repeatedly to that direction from which his expected support must come. At last the welcome sound of distant artillery was heard in the direction of St. Lambert, and a staff officer reported that Blucher was approaching near the scene of action. This was about seven in the evening.

1815.

The enemy then made a desperate effort with cavalry and infantry, supported by the fire of artillery, to force the left centre of the British near the farm of La Haye Sainte. The imperial guard, in close column, came on to the assault and ascended the slope of the position, although the fire of the English guns fell upon their dense masses with ruinous precision. Presently the guards moved forward to the crest of the height, and the finest infantry in the world confronted each other at the distance of fifty paces. The first steady fire of the British guards disorganized the crowded column, and the fusilade was rapidly and steadily sustained. The shattered column of the enemy was soon driven down the hill with precipitate confusion. After routing their opponents, the victorious infantry halted, reformed, fell back, and resumed their former position. Undismayed by the repulse of the first column, Napoleon's second column topped the height in perfect order, which bespoke the certainty of success; but the musketry of Maitland's left wing smote the column heavily in front, and the fire of the light regiments fell with terrible effect on the flank of the mass. The ground in a few minutes was covered with dead and wounded men—the confusion increased—the disorder became irremediable—the columns broke and commenced a rapid retreat. Pressed by the guards, charged by the 52nd, retreat became a flight, and Wellington launched the cavalry of Vivian and Vandeleur against the mass as it rushed down the hill in hopeless disorder. Before it was possible for the French to rally and renew the fight, one grand and general attack consummated the ruin of Napoleon. Wellington is said to have exclaimed, "The hour is come!" The word was given to advance. The infantry, in one long and splendid line, moved forward with a thrilling cheer, the horse artillery galloped up and opened with case shot on the disordered masses. Instantly the allied cavalry were let loose, and, charging headlong into the enemy's columns, they turned retreat into rout, and closed the history of one of the bloodiest struggles upon record.

A complete panic seized upon the French, who threw away their arms to expedite their flight. The Prussian cavalry pursued the enemy from Waterloo to Genappe, and cut them down unmercifully. The roads were covered with dead and dying, and, being obstructed by broken equipages and deserted guns, became almost impassible to the fugitives—hence the slaughter was frightful. Wellington recrossed the battle ground by moonlight, and

1815.

arrived for supper at Brussels. The excited feelings which such a victory must have produced, are said to have suffered a reaction, and given way to a deep despondency as he rode past "the dying and the dead." God knows it was "a sorry sight;" for on a surface not exceeding two square miles, 50,000 dead or disabled men and horses were extended. On the side of the victors, the total of killed and wounded, exclusive of the Prussians, exceeded 13,000 men, among whom were 600 officers and eleven generals. The total loss of the French amounted to not less than 40,000 men.

On his return to Paris, Napoleon made an effort to restore the confidence of his chief counsellors, but in vain. After a fruitless abdication in favour of his son, he retired on board a small vessel at Rochfort, with the intention of proceeding to America; but being captured by a British ship of war, he was condemned by his triumphant enemies to perpetual confinement on the island of St. Helena, in the Atlantic, where he died in 1821.

Joseph Blackburn was born about the year 1770; received a liberal education; was articled to an attorney, and about 1793 began to practice that profession in Leeds. He married a lady of most amiable qualities, and respectable connections; became the father of two children, and for many years enjoyed the high respect of an extensive circle of acquaintances: no man living enjoyed more generally the credit of integrity and respectability than Mr. Blackburn; but, after twenty years, during which time nothing had tarnished his reputation, or blackened his fame, a person, who had formerly been his clerk, laid an information against him for removing stamps from old deeds, and placing them upon new ones; and also with altering the denominations of such stamps. On this charge he was committed to York castle, and on the 18th of March, 1815, put upon his trial for forging a £2. stamp upon a mortgage deed of £180, before Sir Simon le Blanc. After the case for the prosecution had been gone through at some length, and the Judge seeming to think the charge clearly established, and overruling every legal objection taken by the defendant's counsel, he was called upon for his defence, and spoke as follows:—"May it please your lordship—"Gentlemen of the Jury:—

"In the painful and anxious situation in which I am unhappily placed, I am ill-fitted for the task of addressing you on this occasion.—Agitated as I am between hope and fear, I can only solemnly assure you that I never forged

1815.

a stamp in my life; but the public mind has been prejudiced against me by unfounded reports and advertisements, containing vile insinuations against me. But, gentlemen, I entreat and charge you upon your oaths, that you banish all that you have heard out of this court from your minds; and all that I have to wish from you, is, that you be influenced only by the evidence, and that you will do unto me as you would wish to be done unto, were you placed in my unfortunate situation. I have practised as an attorney among my townsmen and neighbours with credit and respectability for twenty-seven years; you will hear from them upon their oaths, the character I have maintained during that period. In making my defence, I have many great and insuperable difficulties to contend with; I am called to furnish an answer, and that by evidence, against a charge which I never heard of until I entered this court; for until I heard the indictment read, I had no knowledge of that which they have imputed to me by this indictment, of course it was absolutely impossible for me to be prepared with evidence to rebut the charge. With respect to the deed in question, I know nothing of it; it has been long out of my possession, and it is clear, by the evidence of the witnesses for the prosecution, that it has been very much exposed; I would only observe, that if it had not had a regular stamp affixed to it, the engrossing clerk must have seen it, and it must likewise have been observed at the office when the deed was registered. When my house was searched, my account books were taken away, which has deprived me of all means of tracing the deed in question, or of proving where the stamp was bought; I had therefore no clue to direct my search. With respect to the spoiled stamps, I would observe, that they have lain by me a long time, and that the period of claiming the allowance for them has long elapsed. It often happens, that after a deed is engrossed, the execution may be delayed a very considerable time beyond the period allowed for claiming the allowance, and if ultimately it should not be executed, the stamp would be entirely lost; this will account for the spoiled stamps, which in a long series of time, have been accumulated. I declare to you, gentlemen, that the deed in question had upon it a regular stamp when it was executed at my office, and I trust you will not presume anything against me; and that you will decide upon my fate with the same candour that you would wish in similar circumstances to be shewn to yourselves. Gentlemen, my

1815.

life is in your hands ; I shall bow with resignation to your decision ; and I trust, I hope, that your decision will be right."

A host of witnesses, of great respectability, and most of whom had known the prisoner for many years, appeared and spoke to his character in terms of eulogium that any citizen might be proud of.

After the summing up of the evidence by the learned judge, which was thought to have been done with somewhat resembling severity towards the prisoner, the jury retired ; and, after an absence of fifteen minutes, returned and delivered a verdict of "*Guilty*."

After this, the prisoner was tried on a second indictment ; charging him with a similar offence, in conjunction with a Mr. Wainewright : on this charge he was acquitted. Mr. Blackburn was so much affected as not to be able to walk from court without assistance.

On the following Wednesday, amid other prisoners, Mr. Blackburn was brought up to receive sentence. In his general address, Sir Simon le Blanc thus particularized the prisoner :—

"I am sorry to remark that you, Joseph Blackburn, whose education and habits of life had furnished you, by the exercise of an honourable profession, with the means of maintaining yourself in credit, should have been induced to resort to such dishonest artifices. But the thirst of money, or the wish to grow rich by means more rapid than by the exercise of patient industry, has induced you not only to plunder the public revenue, but to involve private individuals in distress, if not absolute ruin. By a series of ingenious contrivances, you have been able, by imitating the stamp used in the conveyance of property, to injure the public revenue to a very considerable amount ; and, by affixing those forged stamps to conveyances and other instruments, you have put to hazard property to a very great extent."

The awful sentence was then passed ; and Mr. Blackburn, who, during the whole of the address, appeared convulsed with agony, was literally carried out of court.

The 8th of April was fixed for his execution ; but in the interim between his trial and that day, a petition, signed by upwards of three thousand respectable persons, (mostly of Leeds), was forwarded to the then prince regent : to this lord Sidmouth sent an immediate negative. An application was subsequently made to Sir Simon le Blanc, which was equally unsuccessful. This unfortunate victim



1815.

to the laws of his country, was therefore executed on the above day at York, and his remains were interred at Rothwell, near Leeds.

On February 3rd, the *festival of Bishop Blaize* was renewed at Leeds, after an interval of 27 years. The exhibition was grand beyond all precedent, being got up principally in honour of the peace which then prevailed. (See 1811.)——The *Leeds Soke*, with the “King’s Mills,” was purchased for £32,000, by Mr. Edward Hudson.

On February 9th, the archbishop of York consecrated the Vicar’s croft, at Wakefield, as a burial ground.

On February 22nd, died, aged 82, the Rev. Peter Haddon, M.A., who was a prebendary of Ripon, and 28 years vicar of Leeds, where he was universally esteemed.

On March 23rd, the Rev. Richard Fawcett, M.A., was elected vicar of Leeds.——Smithson Tennant, an ingenious chemist, was born at Selby, of which parish his father was vicar, Nov. 30th, 1761; was placed in a school at Scorton, next at Tadcaster, and afterwards under Dr. Croft, at Beverley, where he applied himself more to science than classics. Went to Edinburgh in 1781, to study physic, and the year after became a member of Christ’s college, Cambridge, from whence he removed to Emanuel college, where he proceeded to bachelor in medicine in 1788: and took the degree of doctor in 1791. Settled in London in 1812, and delivered lectures on mineralogy; next year was elected professor of chemistry at Cambridge. Read a course, and went to France, where, as he was about to embark on his return, was thrown from his horse, near Boulouge, by which he fractured his skull, and died Feb. 22nd, 1815. Was fellow of the Royal Society, and communicated numerous papers, which are published in the Transactions.

Joseph Bramah, an ingenious mechanic, was born at Stainborough, in 1749. He received a common education, and was employed in early life in agricultural occupations, till lameness led him to relinquish that line, and was apprenticed to a carpenter. Had previously made violoncellos and violins. Went to London, and was employed as a cabinet-maker. Undertook the manufacture of pumps, pipes, cocks, &c., for which he received patents. Made hydraulic machines, for which he received a patent. Took out a patent for the application of the hydrostatic uniform pressure of fluids. Employed by the Bank of England, in 1807, to construct a machine for printing the date lines of the notes. He died in 1815.

March 1st. Mr. Robinson, afterwards lord Goderich,

1815.

brought into the House of Commons the bill to amend the laws respecting the importation of foreign corn; it was passed on the 10th, and sent to the House of Lords, where it passed by a majority of 128 to 21, and on the 23rd it received the royal assent. This bill enacted that no importation of foreign corn should be permitted until the average price of wheat should be 80s., rye 55s., barley 40s., and oats 26s. per quarter of eight Winchester bushels. Riots took place in London during the time of the discussion of the corn bill in the House of Commons. The houses of Mr. Robinson, the lord chancellor, lord Castlereagh, and many other members of parliament were attacked, their windows broken, and furniture destroyed. Two persons were shot in front of Mr. Robinson's house.

William Hutton, a bookseller and author of Birmingham, who raised himself from a condition of poverty to one of great respectability and opulence; was born at Derby in 1723, and first worked in a silk-mill there, was afterwards apprenticed to a stocking-weaver at Nottingham, then taught himself bookbinding, and in 1749 walked all the way to London and back to buy the tools necessary for that trade. Having at last saved a sufficient sum, he commenced business in Birmingham in 1750, though on a very small scale. His weekly expenses were only five-shillings, and the first year he saved £20. Hutton continued successful, and in 1791 gave up his business to his son. He had suffered considerable loss in the church and king riots in Birmingham, but recovered a sum of money from the county. He died in 1815, in his 92nd year. Hutton was an author. He wrote, among other works, a "History of Blackpool," "History of Derby," some poems, and a very amusing and interesting autobiography.

A dreadful accident happened at Heaton pit, near Newcastle, by the workings overflowing with water: seventy-five men and thirty-five horses were lost.—On April 13th, the oil mill, at Crown Point, Leeds, with all its machinery, and a considerable quantity of rape and line seed was destroyed by fire.—On June 26th, a fire destroyed several thousand pounds worth of cloth, &c., in the warehouse of Mr. Moore, of Brockwell, near Halifax.

The first stone of Christ church, in Bradford, was laid June 4th. An anonymous lady gave £800 towards the edifice, which was raised by subscription.—A curious antique stone, formed like a mortar, rudely ornamented in relief, and inscribed "S. H. V.—711," was found at Holbeck, near Leeds.—At Marsden, near Huddersfield, was ob-

1815.

served for twenty minutes, on September 18th, that singular phenomenon, a water spout, apparently formed of a dense black cloud, and resembling a long inverted cone, the lowest part of which seemed nearly to touch the ground, whilst above it the clouds were white and fleecy, and seemed much agitated by the water, which, after falling, appeared to rise again rapidly up the vaporous spout with a spiral motion.——On May 8th, died the Rev. Joseph Whiteley, A.M., master of the Leeds grammar school, vicar of Lastingham, and domestic chaplain to the earl of Harewood. During his residence in Cambridge university, he was greatly distinguished for the excellence of his theological compositions, by which he gained several of the Norrisian prizes.——On December 13th, the Austrian archdukes John and Louis, visited the cloth halls and principal manufactories of Leeds, where in rapture they exclaimed to the resident Catholic minister, "*C'est vraiment une ville d'industrie.*"—(This is truly an industrious town).

On December 20th, in consequence of a sudden thaw, after a heavy fall of snow, the river Aire overflowed its banks, and inundated the lower streets of Leeds, so that the bridge could not be approached except in a boat or carriage; happily the flood subsided next day, without any serious accident.

In this year the act of parliament of the 55th Geo. III. cap. 42, was passed, entitled "An act to amend and enlarge the powers and provisions of an act of his present majesty, for erecting a court house and prison, for the borough of Leeds in the county of York, and other purposes; to provide for the expense of the prosecution of felons in certain cases; and to establish a police and nightly watch in the town, borough, and neighbourhood of Leeds." After providing for the continuance of the court house rate, until the expenses incurred by the erection of that building were completely defrayed, the act empowered the magistrates at the quarter sessions, to elect a gaoler or governor of the prison with other subordinate officers, to allow the expenses of prosecutions in specified cases, and to offer proper rewards for the apprehension of offenders. It then arranged for the general police of the borough, by committing to the justices of the peace the prerogative of appointing a chief constable with an appropriate salary, and of electing a sufficient number of persons to be his deputies—by requiring them to select an adequate body of watchmen and patroles for the town and the suburbs within

1815.-1816.

one mile of the bars—by enabling them to impose such rates as were necessary to defray the expense of the new system of police—and by authorizing them to choose such treasurers, collectors, and other officers, as the execution of the act might require. Upon this act the present system of police has been founded, numerous and useful changes for the better have since been made in this department of municipal arrangement, and it may be confidently stated that at the present period, the police of this borough, is as active, as efficient, and as well regulated as that of any other provincial town in the kingdom. The police regulations are now under the control of the corporation.

1816. On January 20th, Messrs. Glover's factory, in Park-lane, Leeds, was destroyed by fire.——In two causes tried in the duchy court of Lancaster, the inhabitants of Ossett and Gawthorp were released from the Wakefield soke, it being the opinion of Mr. Justice Bayley, Mr. Baron Richards, and the chancellor of the duchy, that they were not subject to the custom, though their ancestors had suffered it to be imposed upon them.——The first stone of Coley church, near Halifax, was laid February 26th, and of Luddenden church, on March 14th.——Early on Sunday morning, March 3rd, some lawless workmen broke into the dressing shops of Mr. James Roberts, at Quarmby, and destroyed all the shears, and improved frames.

On April 23rd, were christened at Bingley, three children born at a birth, and then six weeks old, and named Lazarus, Mary, and Martha.——The Wesley chapel, in Meadow-lane, Leeds, was opened June 27th, and is a substantial brick edifice, and since that time it has been considerably enlarged. It is capable of containing 2,000 persons. An organ was added about twenty years ago. During the excavation for this chapel, at the depth of eighteen feet in the gravel, was found a human skeleton, near which were some buckles, and a spear head, supposed to have been drifted there along with the sand and gravel.

The first stone of St. Ann's chapel, at Southowram, was laid by the vicar of Halifax, on July 2nd.——The banking house of Messrs. Ingham, of Huddersfield, stopped payment July 4th, as also did that of Messrs. Brook and Sons, of the same place, on July 23rd.

On July 24th, died, in his 64th year, universally respected, Alexander Turner, Esq., senior alderman, and twice mayor of Leeds.——Liversedge church, at Littleton, built by the Rev. H. Roberson, was consecrated August 29th.

There was great agricultural and commercial distress this year, and numerous meetings were held in various parts of the kingdom to consider the means of alleviating it, and large subscriptions were raised.

August 3rd. Elizabeth Ward, of Rothwell, near Leeds, was tried at York on a charge of wilfully and maliciously administering a certain deadly poison (arsenic) to Charlotte Ward, her sister, with the felonious intent to kill and murder the said Charlotte Ward, on Saturday, the 27th of July, previously. She was found guilty, and the sentence of death passed upon her. During the passing of the sentence the prisoner said,—[speaking to Mr. Staveley, the governor.] "If his lordship will hear me, I will tell him the truth." Mr. Staveley having communicated her request, his lordship said, "I will hear you, but speak the truth." The prisoner then said, "Please, sir, I have an aunt, and she asked me to go to Leeds and get her some white mercury, to put into some whitening." His lordship here said, "You will only aggravate your crime if you tell an untruth." The prisoner then said she would speak the truth; and proceeded to state, that on her return, she gave it to her aunt, who came to their house and mixed something up, and told her that she might go to her work in the kitchen; and that she did not know that white mercury was poison: she had never heard of any such thing, and that she did not mean to poison any body.

Great interest was excited by this remarkable case; and at the instigation of some powerful persons, she was reprieved for three weeks; after this a second reprieve for seven days arrived; and at length an order came for the commutation of her sentence to imprisonment for ten years.

This year died R. B. Sheridan, the last of that constellation of talent, which adorned the latter part of the eighteenth century. As an orator he yielded not even to Pitt; whilst in force and acuteness he may be compared with Fox, and in splendour of imagination, with Burke.—On September 22nd upwards of 100 pieces of silver coin of the reigns of Elizabeth and James I., were found in an inclosure, on Wike common, near Bradford.—On October 19th, was opened the Leeds and Liverpool canal.—In December, the grand duke Nicholas of Russia, visited Leeds, Harewood house, York, and many other places in the county; amongst his attendants were baron Nicholai, Sir William Congreve, generals Kutusoff and Woronzoff, Messrs. Clinecare and Mansell, adjutant Perowsky, and Dr. Creighton.

1816.

During this year two adult schools were established by the Quakers in Leeds, and a Sunday School Union by the various religious sects, who in the following year had 5,000 scholars under gratuitous instruction in the town.

The late Rev. Thomas Dunham Whitaker, LL.D. and F.S.A., vicar of Whalley, and rector of Heysham, in Lancashire, published this year his "*Loidis and Elmete*," and also a splendid edition of the "*Ducatus Leodiensis*," of Thoresby, the antiquary, whose last female descendant was espoused by the doctor, who died in 1822, having himself gained considerable celebrity both as an antiquary and historian; though many of his local sketches bear the evident marks of prejudice and partiality, owing to his rural propensities, and his aversion to populous manufacturing districts, where he too often found his favourite edifices, (churches) crouching under an assemblage of towering chimneys, rising from noisy mills and factories to a greater altitude than the venerable parish spire; and, instead of meeting rustic simplicity, he found perhaps, men of every class possessed of too much worldly knowledge to be kept in rigid canonical obedience, especially in the populous parish of Halifax, where he was "shocked by a tone of defiance in every voice, and an air of fierceness in every countenance." The district having, says he, "declined into manufactures," but the truth is, that those manufactures have raised it from a sterile wilderness to a fruitful country, abounding in wealth, population, and social comfort, and the manners of the inhabitants wear not that forbidding aspect which the otherwise worthy doctor has attributed to them.

In August, this year, a British armament under lord Exmouth, bombarded Algiers, and reduced that piratical state to certain desirable conditions, respecting the treatment of christian prisoners.

The Independent chapel, in Lendal, York, was built this year, and cost upwards of £3,000.—A public house in York, known by the name of the "Hole in the Wall," becoming ruinous, was taken down; when on removing the materials, a subterraneous prison was discovered some feet below the surface. The approach was by a flight of stone steps, at the bottom of which were two massy oaken doors, one against the other, each five feet seven inches high, by two feet seven inches broad, and five inches in thickness. Through these doors, entrance was obtained to the dungeon, which was thirty-two feet five inches in length, nine feet four inches broad, and nine feet high. The walls were four feet ten inches thick. On the side opposite the entrance



1816.-1817.

were three sloping windows, strongly guarded with iron; and, attached to the walls, were the remains of several staples. In the following year, a rude piece of Saxon sculpture, cut upon a stone, supposed to have been the base of the arch over the door-way leading into this dungeon, was found. This singular relic represents a man in the agonies of death, surrounded by demons, who are tormenting the body, and seizing the departing spirit. It is now deposited in the minster library. — A steam-packet, fitted up by Mr. George Dodd, at Glasgow, (being the first that had been seen on the Thames), arrived at London from that port in 121 hours.

1817. The lithographic art was introduced into England this year.

On March 24th, Mr. Mawson's aqua fortis manufactory, at Burmantofts, Leeds, was completely destroyed by fire; unfortunately it was not insured, and the loss was several thousand pounds.

This and the four following years, will always be memorable as an epoch of extraordinary distress, affecting almost every class of the community. To alleviate the distress of the unemployed poor in Leeds, liberal subscriptions were raised by the company frequenting the following inns, viz.: the George and Dragon, Golden Fleece, Bee Hive, White Swan, and some others, from which upwards of 2,000 families were repeatedly relieved with beef, potatoes, soup, bread, and coals. Owing to the very bad harvest of 1816, wheat varied in price this year from 24s. to 55s. per load of three bushels. — Tumultuary proceedings took place in various parts of the county; and a desire for a reform in the House of Commons, which was supposed to be the only means of reducing the public expenditure, began to take deep root among the working classes. The government adopted expedients for counteracting the force of the popular spirit. Certain political emissaries, who, in the spring of the year, came down into the north of England, and who, affecting to be themselves radicals, were, in reality, spies and instigators. The most distinguished of these characters was a person of the name of Oliver, a man of plausible manners and of insinuating address. Mr. Oliver, introduced by a reputed delegate, visited the reformers in Nottinghamshire, Warwickshire, and Lancashire, but the south-western part of the county of York was the favourite seat of his mission. Here, as in other places, he and his travelling companion sedulously incul-



1817.

cated upon their dupes the belief that the people in the metropolis, and in other populous parts of the kingdom, were ready to rise in open rebellion, and waited only to be joined by the reformers of the north, in order to overturn the government by physical force. To obtain credit with his employers for zeal and usefulness, he assembled several meetings of persons whom he dignified with the name of delegates.

On the 6th of June, a meeting was held at Thornhill Lees, at which Mr. Oliver attended in person to address the meeting. While the assembly, which consisted of about a dozen persons, were preparing for deliberation, they found themselves surrounded by a strong detachment of military, headed by major-general Sir John Byng, the commander of the district, by whom ten of them were secured, and conveyed to Wakefield, for examination before the sitting magistrates. Mr. Oliver was suffered to escape. The events of this day, however, led to a distinct recognition of his mission, and to a public exposure, through the medium of the press, of his official connexions. It was now no longer possible to conceal the fact, that a system of espionage had been resorted to, and the first minister of state, lord Liverpool, when pressed upon the subject in the House of Lords, admitted "that Mr. Oliver had been employed by government, to gain information from the disturbed districts;" but his lordship assured the house "that he had been discouraged from endeavouring in any way to excite, or to extend the disaffection which he was to assist in suppressing." A few days after, a full bench of magistrates, with the venerable earl Fitzwilliam at their head, assembled at the Court-house, in Wakefield, and after a patient inquiry into the circumstances of the case, discharged all the prisoners except two of them, who were detained by a secretary of state's warrant, under the Habeas Corpus Suspension Act, on a charge of high treason. The late Mr. Baines was chiefly instrumental in exposing the spy system of Mr. Oliver, and the way he did it is very interesting.

"On the 13th of June, Mr. Baines received a letter from his friend, Mr. James Holdforth, who, on his way to Manchester, had heard facts at Dewsbury, which showed that a government emissary, named Oliver, had been attempting to entrap Mr. James Willan, a printer, of that place, to attend a meeting where ten persons had been arrested. Mr. Baines at once took a chaise, and went (accompanied by one of his sons, the present Edward Baines) to Dewsbury."

1817.

bury, to investigate the facts. He repaired to the house of his friend, Mr. John Halliley, jun., where Mr. James Willan, and at his instance Mr. John Dickinson, linen-draper, attended. There the plot was laid bare. Mr. Willan proved that Oliver, who represented himself as a delegate from the radicals of London, had several times, for the space of two months, endeavoured to seduce him into acts of violence and situations of danger; and that he had especially urged him to attend the meeting above-mentioned of "delegates" at Thornhill Lees on the previous Friday, at which meeting ten poor men were arrested by a party of military under the command of major-general Sir John Byng. Willan, who was a conscientious man and a professor of the principles of the society of Friends, indignantly repelled every invitation to violence, and refused to attend the meeting. The ten prisoners had been conveyed, with Oliver himself, to Wakefield, for examination by the magistrates; but at that town Oliver was seen by Mr. Dickinson at liberty, and in communication with the servant of general Byng; and, on inquiring of the servant, Mr. Dickinson learnt that Oliver had been at his master's house, at Campsall, a few days before. From this and other facts the character of the emissary was evident."

Mr. Baines returned to Leeds, and published a full and clear statement of the whole of the facts, with the names of all the parties, in the Mercury of the following morning. He concluded his narrative with the following remarks:—

"From everything we have heard of the character and conduct of general Byng, we are persuaded that he has been merely the medium for receiving Oliver's information; and that whoever may have employed this double-distilled traitor, the general has acted merely in the discharge of his official duty. But every circumstance we have just related proves that somebody has employed him, and the question is—who were his employers?

"What the trade of this man may be, we cannot pretend to say—but that he is a Green Bag Maker by profession is, we think, sufficiently obvious. Why such a wretch, the mainspring and master-piece of the conspiracy by which the country has been thrown into its present state of alarm and agitation, was suffered to escape, while the poor unfortunate victims of his machinations are held in confinement, is more than we can say; but the subject requires deep and grave investigation, and we call upon the magistrates of this Riding, now that we have given them the clue, to go to the bottom of this nefarious transaction.

"We ask this boon from them in support of their own character: we ask it from a regard to the character of the country: we ask it

1817.

from a regard to the government: we ask it in justice to the advocater of parliamentary reform: and, above all, we conjure them to enter into this inquiry, from a regard to the families and lives of the men at present in confinement, on the information of this prototype of Lucifer, whose distinguishing characteristic it is, first to tempt, and then to destroy."

On the 9th of June, some hundreds of persons assembled about midnight, at a place adjoining the town of Huddersfield, called Folly Hall bridge, under a delusive expectation that they would be joined by other insurgents from various parts of the kingdom, and that, when united, their force would be sufficiently strong to overturn the government of the country! The approach of half a dozen yeomanry cavalry produced considerable alarm amongst them; but they mustered military ardour sufficient to fire several shots, and one of the cavalry horses was wounded in the head. The yeomanry, not considering it prudent to engage with so great a disparity of numbers, retreated for the purpose of obtaining a reinforcement, but, before they could return to the field, a panic had seized the motley assembly at the bridge, and, in a few minutes, their force was completely dispersed. Four and twenty persons, charged with having in some way participated in this futile enterprise, were subsequently apprehended and committed to York castle, and several others escaped. At the assizes in July, ten of the prisoners were put upon their trial before baron Wood, part of them charged with stealing fire arms on their way to the place of rendezvous, and the remainder with aiding and abetting certain persons unknown, in firing at, with an intent to kill, maim, or disable Mr. David Alexander, the yeomanry cavalryman whose horse was shot in the head. Both the charges being ill-supported by evidence, all the prisoners put upon their trial were acquitted, and the bills presented against the principal part of the other prisoners were thrown out.

Jan. 20th. The prince regent opened parliament in person. In the latter part of this year, the armies of the allies were withdrawn from the French territories——The riotous spirit which had lately displayed itself, broke out again on this occasion; and the prince on his way to the house was assailed by tumultuous expressions of disapprobation from an unusually large concourse of people, whose conduct on the return of the procession became more violent, the royal carriage being attacked with stones and other missiles in an alarming manner; a reward of £1,000 was offered for the apprehension of the offenders,

1817.

but they were never discovered.——Feb. 7th. Lord Castlereagh announced in the House of Commons, that the prince regent, sympathising with the sufferings of a generous public, had determined to give up £50,000 per annum of his income; at the same time his lordship communicated the intention of ministers voluntarily to dispense with one-tenth of their official incomes; lord Camden, as one of the tellers of the exchequer, relinquished the whole of the enormous profits of that sinecure office, except £2,500, the regulated income of the other tellers; the expenditure of this year, on the reduced scale, was estimated at £6,500,000 less than that of the preceding one.——This year Watson, Preston, Hooper, and Reene were committed to the tower for high treason; a reward of £500 was offered for the apprehension of Thistlewood, and a further reward of £500 for the junior Watson.

*Disturbances at Manchester.* At a public meeting held near St. Peter's church, on the 3rd of March, by persons denominating themselves friends of parliamentary reform, notices were issued that the espousers of their doctrines should assemble at the same place on the 10th, and proceed thence to the metropolis to present a petition to the prince regent, that they might be enabled to undeceive him. Accordingly on the appointed day, crowds of people flocked into the town from all directions; the instigators were mounted in a cart, and harangued the people, until their increasing numbers suggested the propriety of putting in force the civil and military powers. A party of dragoons, accompanied by the magistrates, surrounded the cart, and conveyed the entire group upon it to the New Bailey prison, and several others were seized by the soldiers on their way there. The concourse of auditors, which amounted to about 30,000, were forthwith dispersed, without the infliction of any severity. A considerable number set out on their mission to London, taking the route of Stockport; but about forty of them were re-conducted to Manchester, and others were secured at Stockport. Most of them were provided with knapsacks, &c., containing blankets and other articles: not more than 500 penetrated so far as Macclesfield. Nothing could be more wretched than their appearance: some actually fainting through weariness, and all of them without provisions, or any apparent resource with which to proceed twenty miles further towards London. Thus ended what has since been known under the quaint appellation of the "Blanketeering Expedition."——June. Watson,

1817.

Thistlewood, and some others, were put on their trial, in the court of king's bench, for high treason; but, chiefly from the discredit thrown upon the testimony of Castles, the principal witness and an accomplice or spy, they were acquitted.—In the course of the summer, the turbulent disposition of the manufacturing classes exhibited itself in many parts, by atrocious acts of tumult and outrage; and it was found expedient to appoint a special commission, to sit at Derby to try the offenders. The first four prisoners who were tried were found guilty; nineteen of the others were allowed to plead guilty, with an understanding that mercy would be extended to them, and twelve were acquitted; sentence of death was pronounced on twenty-three of these deluded men; and three of them, Brandreth, Ludlam, and Turner suffered the full penalty of the law.

On the 12th of Feb., died Joshua Walker, M.D., one of the society of Friends, and twenty-five years a physician of the Leeds infirmary, where he paid unwearied attention to the duties of his office, and, in a pecuniary point of view, was a truly liberal benefactor to that institution. He originally commenced his professional career at Hull, where his success was so great as to afford him the means of supporting a respectable establishment in the short space of one year. His removal to Leeds opened a wider field for the exertion of his talent, and he soon rose to considerable eminence. Poetry was his favourite recreation in his younger days, and his love of classical and polite literature was uniformly conspicuous during his whole life.

November 6th. The princess Charlotte, only child of the prince regent, died immediately after having given birth to a dead son.—Nov 10th. The gig mill of Willans and Sons, Hunslet-lane, Leeds, was consumed by fire, and, as the pipes of the engines brought to extinguish the flames were wilfully cut, it was strongly suspected that the fire had been lighted by an incendiary, for the purpose of destroying the machinery.

On Dec. 11th, died the Rev. Henry Wm. Coulthurst, D.D., who was twenty-seven years vicar of Halifax, during which time he distinguished himself as a pastor, by piety and zeal; as a magistrate, by activity and judgment; as a subject, by loyalty and patriotism; and as a man, by his urbanity and benevolence.

A beautiful monument, executed by Westmacott, was erected to the memory of this excellent man in the

1817.-1818.

parish church, in Halifax, by the parishioners. The workmanship is finely executed, a bust of the Dr. surmounts the following translation of the epitaph, from the pen of the late Dr. Whitaker :—(*Christ.*—"Alpha and Omega.")

Henry William Coulthurst, D.D., descended from an ancient and respectable family in Craven, formerly scholar of St. John's college, afterwards Fellow of Sidney Sussex college, Cambridge. As tutor in his college, as moderator in the public schools, he acquired among his contemporaries no common celebrity. For twenty-seven years he was a most vigilant vicar of this church. His discourses (assiduously delivered, not from his pulpit only, but in the several chapels of this extensive parish), were simple and persuasive. As a magistrate, he was the dispenser of equity and justice, without superciliousness or prepossession. In social intercourse, pleasant, facetious, elegant, yet ever with a view to edification. As a servant to Christ, in words, in actions, in heart, devoted to his Lord. Though temperate in diet, abstinent in wine, he was removed by a stroke of apoplexy, sudden indeed, but to a soul holy, tranquil and heaven-aspiring, not untimely, on the 11th day of December, A.D. 1817, in the 65th year of his age. To him, revered in life, in death lamented, his Halifax parishioners raised by public subscription this memorial.

The Leeds infirmary grounds were considerably extended this year by subscription; four thousand square yards were purchased by Richard Fountayne Wilson, Esq., for £1,500, which he gave to that institution.

The eight bells at Wakefield were replaced by a new peal of ten, cast by Thomas Mears, of London; the tenor weighs 31 cwt. 9 lbs. The chimes which play on them were made in 1795, by George Goodall, of Tadcaster.

1818. John Squires, of Leeds, gave a fatal notoriety to his name by his follies, after having lived many years in high respectability. He was appointed to the situation of treasurer of the Leeds workhouse on the 16th of August, 1810. About four years after that, a deficiency appeared in his accounts of about £50. Squires explained the cause of this, and was forgiven, the council cancelling one half of the debt, and taking his note for the other. This kindness, it was naturally thought, would have had its due influence on the mind of the treasurer; but, alas! for evil habits in 1817, another deficiency occurred, attended with circumstances that



1818.

called for investigation. Squires was summoned to produce his books and attend the committee—he absconded, by that act tacitly admitting his guilt. On examining his accounts, a defalcation nearly amounting to £2,000 was discovered. A warrant was issued, and he was apprehended at York.

At the Spring assizes of 1818, he was brought to trial before Mr. Justice Bayley.—Mr. Williams, with others, were retained for the defendant, and made the most strenuous exertions in his behalf: the particulars, from their legal technicality, are omitted. The indictment consisted of three counts, and stated, that John Squires, being a clerk and servant to the churchwardens and overseers of the township of Leeds, did receive, by virtue of such his employment, the sum of fourteen guineas, which he fraudently embezzled and converted to his own use.

Mr. Hardy stated “this was a prosecution founded on the statute 33rd Geo. III, passed to remedy a defect in law, and to make it larceny for any clerk or servant entrusted with money for the use of their employer, to embezzle or convert the same to their own use.

“The prisoner was employed by the churchwardens and overseers of the poor of Leeds, as their clerk, to receive and pay money on their account; and in the course of his employment he received, on the 23rd of June, the sum of fourteen guineas from the overseer of Lepton, for money advanced by the township of Leeds for the payment of their poor. This money the prisoner did not account for, but secreted and converted it to his own use. In the month of January last, in consequence of some suspicion entertained of his conduct, the committee, consisting of the churchwardens and overseers, appointed a day for the examination of the out-town paupers and of his accounts. Notice was sent to the members of the committee, desiring their attendance; and in pursuance thereof they did attend, but the prisoner did not make his appearance, and it was soon discovered he had absconded.”

After the case had been fully gone through, the jury conferred together a few moments, and found the prisoner “Guilty;” but expressed their wish that the court would, in consideration of his former good character, shew him all the mercy the circumstances of the case would admit.

On Monday, after sentence had been passed on the



other prisoners, John Squires was placed at the bar, and, being asked in the usual terms what he had to say why sentence of death should not be passed upon him, pleaded the benefit of clergy, adding, "I hope, my lord, you will be merciful; I did not intend to defraud any one." His lordship shook his head in token of his disapprobation, and thus addressed the prisoner:—

"It is very painful to me to have to pass sentence upon a man of your age, and who has for so many years filled a respectable situation in life, and received so high a character from so many respectable persons; and this pain has been much increased by what I have just heard you say, that you did not mean to defraud, because it shews that you have not that contrition which you ought to feel. You were placed in a situation of trust: you enjoyed, and it was supposed you deserved, the confidence of your employers; you had a salary which would have enabled you to maintain yourself and pass the latter period of your life respectably and creditably, as you had done until these transactions took place.

"How far and how dreadfully have you fallen! The crime was committed with a deliberation, and it had the great aggravation of being often repeated; for, besides the particular sum of £14 14s., which forms the subject of the charge against you, which it was your duty to have entered to the credit of your employers, and to have accounted to them for, you have admitted a defalcation to no less a sum than £1,800. If there could have been the least pretence or ground for supposing that the omission to enter the account for that sum, was the effect of mistake or accident, the jury, who were so much inclined to pity you, and who recommended that the court would extend towards you all the mercy the circumstances of the case would allow, would not have found you guilty.

"This recommendation the court does not forget, and under all the circumstances of your case, the court doth adjudge, "That you be imprisoned in the House of Correction at Wakefield, for the term of two years."

On January 7th, pursuant to the resolutions of a public meeting, a Savings' Bank, since called the Leeds, Skyrack, and Morley Savings' Bank, was established in Leeds, on the plan proposed by government. It is a very handsome stone building, and is situated at No. 30, Bond-street. In November, 1857, there were deposits amounting to £304,322 3s. 1d., belonging to 11,447 depositors, 97 charitable societies, and 93 friendly societies. The bank

1818.

is open every Tuesday morning from half-past 11 to half-past 1; Tuesday evening, from 6 to half-past 7; Thursday morning, from 12 to half-past 1; Saturday morning, from 12 to half-past 1, for general business, and again on Saturday evening, from 6 to half-past 7 o'clock, for receiving deposits only. Mr. Wm. Tanner is secretary.

Jan. 14th. A calamitous fire destroyed Mr. Thomas Atkinson's cotton mill, at Colne bridge, near Huddersfield, and no fewer than seventeen females, between the ages of nine and eighteen years, perished in the flames, as is recorded on a neat monument erected to their memory in Kirkheaton church yard.——On March 12th, the first stone of that handsome structure, the Wellington bridge, which crosses the river Aire at Bean Ing, near Leeds, was laid by B. Gott, Esq. It was built by subscription, under an act of parliament, and was completed in 1819. It is a handsome structure of one noble elliptical arch of 100 feet span, designed and executed by the celebrated engineer John Rennie, at the cost of £7,000.——In excavating the site of an ancient house in Wade-lane, Leeds, in April, were found a quantity of copper coins, so much corroded, that the inscriptions were very imperfect; they each bore a crowned head, and on the reverse some had a male and others a female, in different attitudes. They were probably some of the early Roman coins, at least one of them appeared to be of the emperor Otho.——June 25th. At the general election lord Milton and the hon. J. A. Stuart Wortley were elected members of parliament for the county of York.——The Savings' Bank, at Huddersfield, was established this year.——The seventy-fifth Wesleyan Methodist Conference was held in Leeds, in August.

A lizard was found alive in a solid block of coal, raised from the middle of a seam, 150 yards below the surface of the earth, in William Fenton Esq.'s coal mine, at Wakefield Outwood. It was five inches long, of the species vulgarly called askers, and, on being exposed to the air, it died.——On September 30th, several human skeletons, without any coffins, were found in a gravel pit between York and Holgate, five or six feet below the surface. One appeared to be the skeleton of a female, for round one of the wrists was a curious plaited bracelet, and near the skull a pair of silver ear-rings. Three small coins were found at the same time, two of the emperor Constantine, and one of Crispus.——The West-Riding pauper Lunatic Asylum, at Wakefield, was opened November 23rd, and cost upwards of £40,000.——Queen Charlotte, consort

1818.-1819.

of George III., died November 17th.—The Leeds gas light company was incorporated by act of parliament, this year. The original works are in York-street; afterwards a gasometer station was made at Sheepscar, and in 1857 new and extensive works, nearly equal to the old works, were erected at New Wortley, near Leeds. The original capital, £20,000; the present capital, with loans, about £150,000. The offices of the company, No. 18, Boar-lane. Mr. W. C. Raper, general manager.

1819. William Hey, Esq., F.R.S., an eminent surgeon of Leeds, was born at Pudsey, on the 3rd Sept., (23rd Aug., old style) 1736, and was third son of Mr. Richard Hey, drysalter, of that town. His mother was the daughter of Jacob Simpson, surgeon, of Leeds, and granddaughter of William Simpson, M.D., of Wakefield. When William Hey was about four years old, he lost the use of his right eye by a wound received from a penknife whilst cutting a piece of string. At the age of seven years he was sent to an academy at Heath, near Wakefield; conducted by Mr. Joseph Randall, and with Dr. Dodgson, bishop of Elphin, and the Rev. Mr. Sedgwich, (afterwards head master of the free school, at Leeds), as classical tutors. During the seven years that he remained at this school, he applied himself to his studies with great diligence and industry, and thus acquired a vast amount of useful knowledge. At the age of fourteen years he was apprenticed to Mr. Dawson, a surgeon and apothecary, at Leeds. He served his time with great credit to himself, and to the satisfaction of his master. During this time he was most assiduous in the studies connected with his profession, and was particularly remarkable for temperance, industry and piety. In the autumn of 1757, he went to London to complete his professional education. During the whole winter he seldom employed less than twelve hours daily in the lecture and dissecting rooms, and thus he was enabled to acquire a thorough and practical knowledge of anatomy. He became a pupil of St. George's hospital, under William Bromefield, Esq. Early in 1759, he attended the lectures of Dr. Mackenzie on midwifery, and early in April of the same year, he returned to Leeds to enter upon his practice as a surgeon and apothecary, &c., but for several years his progress in gaining business was very slow. On the 30th of July, 1761, Mr. Hey married Alice, the second daughter of Mr. Robert

1819.

Banks, a gentleman of Craven, in Yorkshire. After the establishment of the Leeds general infirmary, he was appointed one of the surgeons, and in November, 1773, became the senior surgeon of the institution. Three or four years before this time, he commenced a friendly intercourse with the celebrated Dr. Priestley, who then resided at Leeds, and the two together conversed with the greatest freedom and harmony on philosophical subjects; but on theological matters there was much difference of opinion between them, though not sufficient to sever their friendship, which remained steadfast for many years. On the recommendation of Dr. Priestley, Mr. Hey was, in the year 1775, elected a fellow of the royal society. In the year 1778, Mr. Hey had the misfortune to receive a kick from his horse, which threatened for a time to terminate his professional labours. He then stood very high as an operating surgeon, and had a large practice. By this accident, his leg was permanently injured, so that till his death he was never able to walk without the aid of a crutch. He was then obliged to pay his professional visits in a carriage. On the formation of a Leeds philosophical society in 1783, Mr. Hey became president, and read many valuable papers to the members during the three years of its existence. In 1786 he was elected an alderman of the borough of Leeds; and in the following year was appointed mayor. He was again elected mayor in 1802. In the spring of 1800, he gave a course of twelve anatomical lectures at the Leeds infirmary. The first eleven lectures were delivered on the body of a malefactor who had been executed at York. The clear profits of the course were given to the infirmary, and amounted to £27 6s. In 1803 he gave a second course, the subject being the body of one of the murderers of an old woman near Wakefield. He presented the profits (forty guineas) to the infirmary. In 1805 he gave a third course, by which the institution gained £45 7s. In the year 1809 he gave a fourth and last course. The subject dissected was a woman of atrocious character—Mary Bateman. A great many people attended these last lectures, and the profits Mr. Hey presented to the institution, amounting to £80 14s.

On October 7th, 1812, he resigned his office of surgeon to the Leeds infirmary, which he had held above forty-five years, thirty-nine of which he had been senior surgeon. On the following day his son William was unanimously elected to the office vacated by the resignation of his

1819.

father. The following document will illustrate the feelings with which the trustees of the infirmary accepted the resignation of Mr. Hey. It was beautifully engrossed on vellum, and ornamented with a vignette of the infirmary:—

“At a special meeting of the trustees of the general infirmary, at Leeds, held the 22nd day of October, 1812, in conformity with a resolution passed at the annual board, on the 7th instant:—It was resolved unanimously—

“That the thanks of this meeting be given to William Hey, Esq. F.R.S, late senior surgeon to the Leeds infirmary, who, by his zealous exertions in originally promoting its foundation, and his unwearied attention to its interests for a period of forty-five years, is justly entitled, to the appellation of a parent to the institution; and who, by a skilful and unremitting discharge of the duties of his professional situation in the establishment, from his appointment to it in the year 1767, to his late resignation on account of advanced age, has rendered the most essential services to so excellent a charity, and furnished a bright example to all those who may hereafter be called to fill the same important station. Resolved—

“That as a permanent mark of gratitude for his public exertions, and esteem for his character, the friends of the institution shall be allowed to place his portrait in the board room. Resolved—

“That the address of thanks, prepared by the committee appointed for that purpose, at the meeting of the 7th of October, and now read, be presented to Mr. Hey by the chairman, together with these resolutions: and that the resolutions be published in each of the Leeds newspapers. (Signed) W. York, chairman.

Mr. Hey acknowledged the honour conferred on him by the following letter addressed to the trustees:—

“Gentlemen,—The unusual manner in which you were pleased to express your vote of thanks for my past services to the charity, calls for my most grateful acknowledgment. I am truly sensible of your kindness, and could have wished to express in person the sense which I entertain of your distinguished favour; but my feelings quite overcame me, and rendered it impossible for me to express what I wished to say on the occasion. Be assured, however, that I shall retain a lively sense of your kindness, as long as the remembrance of past events shall remain with me. If I have contributed in any degree to the formation and support of this institution, which is now extending its charitable assistance to so great a number of our afflicted fellow-creatures, I desire to consider myself only as an humble instrument in the hands of that gracious Being who endears us to each other by making us virtually the channels of his bounty. Permit me, gentlemen, to assure you that my prayers for the success of this benevolent institution will never be wanting; and allow me to add, that the sight of this house of mercy is one of the daily sources of consolation that attend my declining years. “I remain, gentlemen, with great respect,

“Your obliged and humble servant,

“WILLIAM HEY.”

Oct. 9th, 1812.

1819.

"To William Hey, Esq., F.R.S.

"Sir—The trustees of the general infirmary in this town cannot satisfy their feelings with the tokens of respect and gratitude which you have already received, however unanimously, however cordially the same were conveyed, without some further expression of their sense of your services. After having actively assisted in the original formation of this institution, you have continued through the long period of forty-five years, to afford it the advantage of your professional skill with diligence and fidelity. You have often effectually recommended it to the patronage of your friends. You have often contributed largely to its high and deserved estimation with the public. You have essentially served its funds by repeated liberal communications of knowledge in your lectures to those pupils who may, at some future period endeavour to follow in your footsteps.

"You retire, sir, from your charge, but we trust you will never be unmindful of the interests of the infirmary, nor fail to promote its welfare, while the Almighty preserves your valuable life.

"May the evening of your days be cheered with the blessings of multitudes who are ready to perish! May this expression of the unanimous feelings of the friends and supporters of the institution contribute to soothe your declining years, and may you experience the high gratification of seeing your *son* emulating his *father*, and promising to terminate his services with equal honour! With sincere and due respect and esteem, we have the pleasure to subscribe ourselves

"Your faithful and humble servants,

"W. YORK,  
JOHN BLAYDS,

THOMAS BISCHOFF,  
JOHN CLAPHAM,

T. S. B. READE,  
THOMAS TEALE.

Leeds, Oct. 22nd, 1812.

"Committee."

Mr. Hey highly deserved these laudations. His intellectual powers were of a high order. He was capable of profound investigation; was acute in discovering the difference of things: patient and diligent in his researches. His surgical writings evince a strong, comprehensive, and enlightened view of the subjects which he undertook to illustrate, and are very valuable to the faculty. In the exercise of his profession, he was indefatigable; in its attainments eminently distinguished. In domestic life he was kind, tender, and affectionate; as a magistrate, just, legal, and conscientious. Through life he was remarkable for sobriety and temperance, united with wisdom and christian piety.

At the age of 82, his eye-sight was remarkably good, so that he could read and write in a good light without spectacles, and his handwriting was firm and distinct, without any of those irregularities which denote a tremulous pen. His hearing was very acute; and his vocal powers, although much diminished, were agreeable. The distinctness of his conceptions, the soundness of his judg-



ment, his orderly and correct mode of thinking, and his facility of conveying his notions with perspicuity, copiousness and fluency did not appear to have suffered any diminution. This eminent man died on Tuesday, the 23rd of March, 1819, full of honours and at the advanced age of 83. On the following Saturday he was buried at St. Paul's church Leeds. His funeral was attended by a great number of his friends and fellow-townsmen; and a funeral sermon was preached on the following day (Sunday) by his friend and highly respected pastor, the Rev. Miles Jackson, in the church of St. Paul, where Mr. Hey had been a constant attendant on divine worship since its consecration in 1793. The death of Mr. Hey was an event deeply felt and sincerely lamented throughout the borough of Leeds. A full length marble statue of Mr. Hey (by Chantry) was subsequently erected by the subscriptions of his fellow-townsmen, and is placed in the Leeds general infirmary.

The *Leeds Independent newspaper* was first published on Jan. 7th, and existed till 1826.——The *Leeds Gazette* was established in 1829; it lived twenty-two weeks.

A preliminary meeting for the formation of the *Leeds Philosophical and Literary Society* was held at the court house on the 11th of December, 1818, at which the venerable Mr. Hey, then 83 years of age, and within a few months of his death, presided. Among those present were Mr. Gott, Mr. Marshall, Mr. Tottie, Mr. William Hey, Mr. George Banks, Dr. Thorp, Mr. John Bischoff, Mr. Thomas Blayds, Mr. Michael Thomas Sadler, Mr. John Atkinson, (Surgeon,) Mr. Jonathan Wilks, Mr. W. Osburn, Dr. Payne, Dr. Hunter, Mr. C. J. Thackrah, Mr. John Gott, Mr. West, Mr. E. S. George, Mr. Baines, sen., and Mr. Baines, junr., and others. The foundation stone of the hall, which is situated in Bond-street, at the junction of Park-row, was laid by the late Benjamin Gott, Esq., July 9th, 1819, and the building executed from designs by R. D. Chantrell, Esq. It is a handsome stone structure, consisting of two stories, having the upper one externally adorned with coupled pilasters of the Doric order. The principal entrance is in Bond-street, and opens into a vestibule, or entrance hall, 22 feet by 16, leading to a commodious lecture hall, 44 feet by 31½, having seats for 300 persons; the council room, 12 feet by 14; library, 25 feet by 13; and ante-room, 15 feet by 14. The principal parts of the museum are the upper story, and consist of curator's room, 24 feet by 13; geological room 49 feet by 15; ditto., 24 feet by 20; and zoological room, 42 feet by 31. In the centre of the latter are tables giving



1819.

295 feet of space ; and in the general geological room, two tables occupying 83 feet, and two cases 100 feet. The museum is equal, if not superior, to that of any other provincial institution in the kingdom.

In the vestibule is placed the entire skeleton of an elephant, a splendid skull and tusk of the same animal, a very fine specimen of the *Plesiosaurus macrocephalus*, some remarkably fine specimens of fossil plants, a basaltic column from the giant's causeway, and a statue of the late M. T. Sadler, M.P., modelled by Parke.

The geological collection comprises 7,000 specimens ; some of these are unique, many of great value, and every formation is represented by some of its characteristic fossils. The mineralogical series extends to 1,300 specimens, and includes examples of most of the metalliferous and earthy compounds. The zoological collection, 6,000 in number, includes quadrupeds, birds, reptiles, fishes, zoophytes, mollusca, insects, crustacea, and other invertebrated animals. The museum also contains many other objects of great interest and value, particularly the Egyptian mummy, one of the most interesting which has been brought to Europe. It came from Trieste, and was presented by Thos. Blayds, Esq. The coffin is covered with mythological representations and inscriptions, which have been interpreted by W. Osburn, Esq., M.R.S.L., a townsman, proving it to contain the mortal remains of Ensa Amoun, who was one of the higher order of the priesthood—the hierogrammatists, who lived during the reign of Rameses, or Ramses IX., and was incense-bearer and scribe, who took part in the religious ceremonials in the mennonium at Thebes, about the year 1075 before Christ, or, according to archbishop Usher's chronology, early in the reign of Saul, king of Israel. The body is in a remarkable state of preservation. There is also a collection of domestic and warlike instruments of foreign nations. The library contains 1,200 vols. on natural history and numismatics ; many, rare and costly. In 1854 the society was enriched by the valuable collection of coins, medals, and books on the study of archæology, bequeathed by the late George Baron, Esq., of Drewton manor. This collection comprises a series of upwards of 2,000 coins and medals of great variety and beauty, including Roman, Grecian, Saxon, early British, English, Scottish, and Oriental examples : also casts from Roman large brass coins, the whole containing 216 gold, 1,259 silver, 246 bronze, and 363 brass coins and medals, besides tokens, money weights, &c. The right hon. lord Londesborough has also recently presented 300 Roman coins, found near Methall, in the East-Riding, the supposed site of the Delgovitia of Antoninus's Itinerary : and, in the year 1858, George Lane Fox, Esq., of Bramham hall, liberally presented his museum, containing several hundred specimens of birds, shells, fossils, minerals, antiquities, &c., some of them of great rarity.

The arrangement of the museum has lately been materially improved, and new cases added.

In the zoological room will be found ample illustrations of all the classes of the animal kingdom, embracing the most interesting and important specimens. The shells have been re-arranged, with upwards

1819.

of 2,000 additional specimens from Jamaica, California, &c. The geological specimens, illustrative of the Yorkshire coal-field, and its superficial deposits have been separately arranged, by which, not only an epitome of the geology of the immediate neighbourhood, but practical illustrations of the organic remains of the carboniferous epoch, is obtained. In the centre of this room is deposited the most extensive series of Hippopotamic bones ever exhumed in England: all were discovered in a brick-field at Wortley, in the parish of Leeds, in 1852. From the bones thus obtained, it was evident four specimens of this animal—three adult and one young—had been submerged in the locality, together with the Mammoth and *Bos primigenus*. Amongst the Ichthyological remains is the unique head of the *Megalichthys Hibberti* from the coal formation at Low Moor, and other valuable specimens of the fish of the carboniferous æra.

In the general geological room, there is an extensive and valuable series of organic remains, illustrating the various formations, embracing several fine Saurian reptiles, a magnificent skeleton of the gigantic Irish Deer presented by W. Gott, Esq., (one of the most munificent supporters of the institution, as may be seen by the rare and valuable contributions inscribed with his name); and one of the finest heads and horns in the kingdom, of the same noble animal, presented by Sir George Goodman; fine slabs of new red sandstone, containing the footmarks of the Labyrinthodon; several splendid specimens of Encrinites; a magnificent skull and entire skeleton of the Great Cave Bear, from the caverns of Sundwig, in Westphalia; and an interesting series from the celebrated cave at Kirkdale, in Yorkshire.

The British birds have also been re-arranged, and consequently rendered more available for reference, and some rare specimens have been added to both the Foreign and British series—as the noble specimen of the Condor, presented by the earl Fitzwilliam; the Cassowary, from lord Londesborough; and the splendid Trogon from Arthur Marshall, Esq.

The hall contains three fine busts and pedestals in marble, viz:—the late Benjamin Gott, Esq., presented by his sons, and executed by Joseph Gott, Esq., of Rome; the late John Marshall, Esq., (the first president) presented by his sons, and executed by Macdonald, of Rome; the Rev. Wm. Sinclair, M.A., presented by a number of subscribers, and executed by Baron Marochetti; and a cast of the late Wm. Hey, Esq., F.R.S., presented by Wm. Hey, Esq., &c.

The opening of the museum to the public at the merely nominal charge of 1d., has done much to foster a taste for the study of natural history, and it may be questioned whether any town of like magnitude with Leeds, can boast of such a number of naturalists, especially among the working classes, many of whom associate together in clubs, for the purpose of aiding each other in procuring specimens illustrative of the various kingdoms of nature.

Numerous lectures are delivered on almost every subject within the range of philosophy, science, and literature, and

1819.

men of the most eminent qualifications are usually selected as lecturers. During the last few years the society has been honoured with the presence, in this capacity, of some of the most distinguished men of the time.

A conversazione is held once or twice during the year, when the council invite the élite of the town and neighbourhood.

The Rev. Dr. Hook, dean of Chichester, was the last president. The officers and council for 1859, are—

OFFICERS:—President,—Rev. Alfred Barry, M.A. Vice-Presidents,—John Hope Shaw, Rev. H. R. Reynolds, B.A. Treasurer,—Henry Oxley. Honorary Secretaries,—Wm. Sykes Ward, F.C.S., P. O'Callaghan, B.A. Honorary Curator in Geology,—J. G. Marshall, F.G.S. Honorary Curators in Zoology,—T. P. Teale, F.L.S., Rev. Thomas Hincks, B.A. Honorary Curator in Antiquities and Works of Art, &c.,—Thomas Nunneley. Honorary Librarian,—Dr. Heaton.

*The above Officers, and the following Gentlemen, compose the*

COUNCIL:—William Scrope Ayton, F.S.A.; William Blanshard, Charles Chadwick, M.D.; Samuel Hey, Joshua Ingham Ikin; John Jowitt, jun., Christopher Kemplay, George Morley, George Pyemont Smith, M.D., T. W. Stansfeld. Sub-Curator,—Henry Denny, A.L.S.

May 24th, Queen Victoria born.——The first steam vessel from America, arrived July 15th.——The first stone of the *Leeds Subscription Baths* was laid May 15th. The site of these baths are now occupied by Cooper's warehouses in Wellington-street.——Leeds was first lighted with *coal gas* on February 4th.——The first stone of the Episcopal chapel at Sowerby Bridge was laid on the 24th of April, by Thos. Dyson, Esq., and on the 10th of May, that of the Independent chapel at Halifax, by the Rev. Edward Parsons.——On May 29th, Mr. Asquith, of Hipperholme, was cruelly thrown over the battlements of Halifax bridge, by some unknown assassin, and, being precipitated to a depth of forty-six feet, was found dead the next morning. Afterwards the bridge was surmounted with iron palisades, in the hope to prevent any similar occurrence.——On the same day was laid the first stone of the large Methodist chapel, in Huddersfield, where the erection of a national school commenced September 3rd.——On December 17th, Benjamin Surr, a poor innocent of Leeds, about thirty years of age, was found chained to the wall in his father's cellar, in which distressing situation he had been inhumanly confined during fifteen years, with nothing but a few sacks and a

little straw for his bed, and such a scanty supply of food that his bones had in several places penetrated through his skin, which appeared not to have been washed for many years. He was removed to the workhouse, but only survived thirteen days.——This year, John Pollard, Esq., erected, at the cost of £1,500, an iron bridge over the Aire, near Horsforth.——B. Haigh Allen, Esq., built Trinity church, near Huddersfield.——A new spring was discovered at Harrogate, of the same quality as the Cheltenham water.——In the autumn of this year, the misery of the working classes had reached its greatest height, and still parliamentary reform was demanded, as the only measure which could permanently improve their prospects.

A party called Radical Reformers, obtained much notice by their active exertions among the lower orders. One of their first steps was an application to the magistrates of Manchester, to convoke a meeting for the alleged purpose of petitioning against the corn bill, which was refused; and, in consequence, the meeting was summoned by an anonymous advertisement, and Mr. H. Hunt, who was selected as the hero of the day, was conducted to the place of meeting in a sort of triumphal procession, and a strong remonstrance to the prince regent was adopted; the assemblage, however, dispersed without tumult. In Lancashire, female reform societies were formed for the purpose of co-operating with the men, and of instilling into their children "deep rooted hatred of our tyrannical rulers." At Birmingham, the reformers hazarded a bolder experiment than they had before displayed. This was the election of a member to represent them in parliament, and on the 12th of July, Sir Charles Wolseley was put in nomination, and instantly chosen by an assemblage of 15,000 persons. A few days after this, it was resolved, at a meeting in Leeds, that a similar election should take place as soon as an eligible member should be found.

On the 24th of July, an atrocious attempt was made to assassinate Mr. Birch, deputy-constable of Stockport, by whose exertions Sir C. Wolseley and Harrison, two radical reformers, were arrested.——The Manchester reformers posted up notices of a meeting, to be held on the 9th of August, for the purpose of electing a member as at Birmingham; as the object of the meeting was illegal, the magistrates would not suffer it to take place. In consequence of this determination, they relinquished the design, and issued notices of a meeting, for the legal object of

1819.

petitioning for a reform in parliament, to be held on the 16th of August. An open space in the town, called St. Peter's field, (since *Peterloo*), was selected as the place of assembly; some hours before the proceedings were to commence, large bodies marched in from the neighbouring towns and villages, formed five deep, and preserving a military regularity of step: each body had its own banner, bearing a motto, and underneath a white silk flag; two clubs of female reformers appeared; the numbers collected were estimated at 60,000. A band of special constables, stationed on the ground, disposed themselves so as to form a line of communication from a house where the magistrates were sitting, to the stage fixed for the orators. Soon after the business of the meeting had been opened, a body of yeomanry cavalry entered the ground, and advanced to the stage with drawn swords; the commanding officer called to Mr. Hunt, who was speaking, that he was his prisoner; Mr. Hunt, after enjoining the people to be tranquil, and offering to surrender to any civil officer who should exhibit his warrant, was taken by a constable, and several other persons were apprehended. Some of the yeomanry now cried, "have at their flags!" and they began to strike down the banners which were raised in various parts of the field, when a scene of dreadful confusion ensued. The people stood in a very compact mass, and refused to move. The yeomanry were then ordered to clear the place. Their charge swept everything before it. People, yeomen, and constables, in their confused attempts to escape, ran one over the other so that the fugitives were literally piled up to a considerable elevation above the level of the ground. About thirty wounded persons were carried to the infirmary in the course of that afternoon and the following day; and about forty more were able to go themselves to have slighter injuries looked at and dressed. The greater number of the injuries were contusions or fractures. The cases of sabre wounds do not appear to have been more than twenty or thirty. Three or four persons were wounded on the evening of the fatal day by the fire of one of the regiments of foot, which was ordered to clear the streets, where the people had re-assembled in great numbers, and their conduct had begun to be threatening. Altogether, the number of lives lost appears to have been five or six, including one of the special constables, ridden over by the hussars; and one of the Manchester yeomen, struck off his horse by a brick-bat, and who had his skull fractured either by the blow or the fall. Mr.

1819.

Hunt subsequently stated in the House of Commons that 14 were killed, and 618 wounded; but this seems to have been exaggerated. The tragic nature of this event, and its appearing as an invasion of the popular right of meeting for redress of grievances, produced strong marks of public resentment; but the magistrates who conducted the attack, received the thanks of the government.

Meetings were held in London and other places, and resolutions passed, strongly censuring the conduct of the magistrates and yeomanry of Manchester. Never was public detestation more strongly and generally expressed than on the "Manchester massacre," which, notwithstanding, received the sanction of the prince regent and the ministers, though no justifiable plea could be advanced to warrant the proceedings of the hot-headed yeomanry; and it is believed that Mr. Hunt might have been secured without spilling one drop of human blood, if the veteran regulars, who were on the spot, had been employed. These consisted of a detachment of the 15th hussars, and the 31st regiment of infantry, supported by artillery.——Reform meetings were held on Hunslet moor, near Leeds, on June 5th, 14th, and 21st, and on July 19th, Sept. 20th, and on Dec. 9th; also, on Skircoat moor, near Halifax, on Oct. 4th; at York, on Sept. 20th and Oct. 14th; at Huddersfield, on Aug. 2nd; at Wakefield, on Aug. 30th and Nov. 1st; at Barnsley, Nov. 8th; at Dewsbury, Nov. 11th; and at Otley, Nov. 22nd.

When parliament re-assembled in November, acts were passed to suppress unstamped political publications, to prevent secret training to arms, and to restrict the right of calling a public meeting to magistrates.——This year was remarkable among other things, for the provision made by act of parliament, for the resumption of cash payments at the bank.——Government found it expedient to abandon the threatened prosecution of Hunt and his colleagues for high treason, and informed them that they would be proceeded against for a conspiracy only, which might be bailed; Hunt refused to give bail, but some of his friends liberated him. His return from Lancaster to Manchester was one long triumphal procession; waited upon by thousands on horse, on foot, and in carriages. The grand jury of Lancaster found true bills against Hunt, Johnson, Moorhouse, and others. The prisoners availed themselves of traversing till the spring assizes of 1820, and the trial took place at York. After a trial of ten days, Hunt, Johnson, Knight, Healey, and Bamford were found guilty, and sentenced in the ensuing term; Hunt to be imprisoned in Ilchester gaol



1819.

two years and six months, and to find sureties for his good behaviour for five years; and Johnson, Bamford, and Healey be imprisoned each one year in Lincoln castle, and to find sureties; four of the prisoners were acquitted.

Oct. 21st. The venerable earl Fitzwilliam was removed from the office of lord-lieutenant of the West-Riding of Yorkshire, by the prince regent for having attended a county meeting at York on the 14th of October, to petition for a full enquiry into the Manchester massacre. It is said that 20,000 people were present at this meeting. So strong was the public feeling against this sudden removal of an old and faithful statesman, that many distinguished persons resigned their commissions in the Yorkshire corps of yeomanry and militia. The office was bestowed on the earl of Harewood.

May. As a number of labourers were excavating a piece of ground contiguous to the river Aire, near Simpson's fold, now Dock-street, Leeds, about three feet below the bed of the river, they discovered three large oak trees, decayed, and as black as charcoal, and one quite sound at the heart; they were employed by the Aire and Calder company in making a basin, or dock, to communicate with the Aire, and to their astonishment found evident traces of a goit; large quantities of piles or stakes were discovered on each side of the course of the water, exhibiting the appearance of its having formerly been the course of the river. Part of a Roman ford was also discovered; the substance of which it was composed seemed calculated to defy the action of water, being as hard as iron, close and compact, and of a composition known only to that adventurous people. From observations made when the water was at a very low ebb, the ford appeared to have crossed the Aire in a line with the east end of the Aire and Calder company's new corn warehouses stretching from Call-lane to the south side of the river, and nearly opposite to the flax manufactory, in Dock-street.

James Watt, a distinguished engineer and natural philosopher, who has gained great celebrity by his improvements in the steam-engine, was born at Greenock, in Scotland, January 19th, 1736. His father was a ship-chandler, builder, and merchant, and filled an honourable station in his native town, where he was much respected. James, his eldest son, was, when a child, very weak in health, and early showed a taste for scientific pursuits. He was fond of chemistry, and also of medical and surgical studies; but he determined to become a mathematical instrument maker.



1819.

In 1755, after a previous apprenticeship, most likely in Glasgow, Watt went to pursue his business in London, where he remained little more than a year. After his return, he endeavoured to establish himself in Glasgow; but in consequence of not being a burgess, he met with so much opposition that he was unable to obtain a workshop. The university offered to receive him into their precincts, which were not under the civic jurisdiction, and also appointed him their mathematical instrument maker. This happened in 1757, when Watt was scarcely 21. In the winter of 1763-4 he was applied to by a professor of natural philosophy to examine and repair a model of Newcomen's steam-engine, which would not work. This incident led to those inventions which have immortalised his name. In 1764 Watt married the daughter of a freeman of Glasgow, and by that means acquired the right of one himself. He therefore settled in the city, and there pursued not only his first business, but also that of land-surveyor and civil engineer. He continued his experiments on the steam-engine, and in 1768 applied for a patent, which was granted in 1769. After the application had been made, he found a person able and willing to support him in a Dr. John Roebuck. Their connection did not, however, last long; for Roebuck lost so much by mining speculations that he was obliged to relinquish the steam-engine experiments. From this period till 1773 Watt was employed in engineering and surveying. He then, his first wife being dead, accepted an invitation to go to England. Dr. Roebuck gave up his share in the invention to Mr. Boulton, the founder of Soho, a manufacturing village near Birmingham. Watt entered into partnership with him in 1774, and the connection continued until 1800, when Watt retired from business. They obtained an extension of the patent, and in spite of all opposition, prejudice, and infringements of their rights, from all of which they had to suffer, Mr. Boulton's excellent business qualities, Watt's industry and ingenuity, and the liberal views and generous spirit of both, received in time their due reward. James Watt died at his estate of Heathfield, near Birmingham, August 25th, 1819, in his 83rd year. He was a pleasant, cheerful man in his latter years, though it appears that when young he was nervous and depressed; his disposition was generous and affectionate. He was twice married: two only of his children survived him. A baronetcy was offered to Watt a few years before his death, but he declined the honour. A monument, which is one of Chantry's

1819.-1820.

finest works, has been erected to his memory in Westminster abbey.

1820. On the 21st of Jan., the duke of Kent, fourth son of Geo. III., died, leaving an infant daughter, *Victoria*, with a very near prospect to the throne.—On the 29th of January, George III. died, at Windsor, in his 82nd year, and sixtieth year of his reign, without having experienced any lucid interval since 1810. The prince regent was immediately proclaimed George IV.

March 20th, Lord Milton and J. A. Stuart Wortley, Esq., were elected members of parliament for Yorkshire.

April. About this time, the spirit of discontent created tumultuous proceedings at Glasgow and Paisley. On Sunday, April 2nd, a treasonable proclamation was posted on the walls in Glasgow, and its neighbouring towns and villages, supposed to emanate from "the committee for the formation of a Provisional Government," and recommending the proprietors of large manufacturies to suspend their employments, till order should be insured by the organization alluded to, &c. The weavers and colliers in Paisley and Glasgow declined work, and this baneful example spread through numerous bodies of other artizans. Glasgow now exhibited a most extraordinary aspect, the streets crowded with throngs of people idly loitering their time away, but who did not attempt by any act to violate the public peace, except in one instance, viz.: on Wednesday, when an individual of the Stirling yeomanry, proceeding from Kilsyth to Falkirk, fell in with a party armed with muskets, pikes, and pistols, who demanded his arms, which he refused to surrender, when several shots were discharged at him; he, however, escaped uninjured to Kilsyth: the commanding officer immediately despatched a party of cavalry and yeomanry to scour the road to Falkirk. The military soon came in sight of the insurgents, who were augmented in number, and had posted themselves on a rising ground in Bonnymuir, and had sought the protection of a stone wall, from behind which they fired several times, but were however overpowered by the military: many of the insurgents were severely wounded and ten taken prisoners, who afterwards were put on their trials and found guilty, but the royal clemency was extended to all but three, who were executed.

Aug. 6th. Died Frederica Charlotte Ulrica, duchess of York, in her 54th year; she was interred by her express desire, in the village church of Walton, in Surrey.

*Cato-Street conspiracy.*—On Feb. 23rd, was discovered a

conspiracy to assassinate his majesty's ministers, to overthrow the existing government, and plunge these realms into anarchy and confusion. The principal leaders in this atrocious and absurd plot, were Arthur Thistlewood, Ings, Davison, Brunt, Tidd, and about forty other misguided persons, eleven of whom were taken prisoners, by a large party of constables, headed by Sir Richard Birnie, a magistrate, and a detachment of the Coldstream guards, in a room in Cato-Street, London, where their meetings were held. Bills of indictment, on a charge of high treason, were found against them on March 27th, and a commission was opened on April 17th, when the five before named were tried, condemned, and after been hanged, were beheaded. The other six being permitted to withdraw their original plea, now pleaded guilty; one of the number, it appeared, was ignorant of the purpose of the meetings in Cato-street, and was pardoned; the remaining five were transported for the term of their natural lives.

William Smith, butcher, of Leeds, was charged on an indictment with stealing two sheep, the property of Joseph and Thomas Smith, farmers, of Rothwell; and another indictment with stealing two other sheep, the property of the said Joseph and Thomas Smith, and of William Lund, of Claxton.

The jury found the prisoner "Guilty."—The judge said it was the only verdict that could be returned; and adverting to the death of the prisoner's mother, said it was a most melancholy circumstance, but it was not uncommon for the misconduct of children to bring the grey hairs of their parents with sorrow to the grave.

Great efforts were made to obtain a commutation of his sentence, but in vain; and on the 12th of August the prisoner was executed.

Benjamin Taylor, William Shiers, and James Gray, pleaded "Not guilty," at York, to an indictment charging them with assaulting James Nicholson, town clerk, of Leeds, on the highway, and taking from his person a watch and gold seal, on the 17th of November, 1819.

Mr. Nicholson described the assault as follows:—I had been dining with Mr. Pullan, of Leeds, on Wednesday, the 17th of November, and set off on my return to Chapeltown, where I reside, about eight o'clock in the evening: I was about half a mile beyond Sheepscar turnpike, when I met three men, one of them on foot, and the other two mounted on one horse. The man on foot said "Good night;" I re-

1820.

turned his salutation and went on. I had proceeded about thirty yards when I heard a footstep: I turned, and saw a man close to me: it was dark, and I saw but indistinctly; he said something, concluding with "I will blow your brains out." I struck at him immediately with a stick which Mr. Pullan had lent me. I struck the man down. Another then came up and said "let him go," but I still held the man who had first attacked me. The second man then went to the road side and took up a large stone and threw it at me; he subsequently threw another, a smaller one. I continued to hold the first man. The second man then produced a pistol and fired at me, but it flashed in the pan. He then rushed in, but I held the first man with one hand, and struck at the second with my stick. The man whom I held called out "Bill, why dost not thou come on." A third man then appeared (this was subsequently proved to be Shiers) and joined in the attack. I fought as long as I could, but they got me down and rifled my pockets. They took my watch and some patterns of scarlet cloth. I cried out "Murder," and one of them put his hand over my mouth. When they had got my watch, they gave me two or three blows on the head with a stick, and then left me. I felt very weak, but I got up, and seeing a cottage near, I was going towards it, when a man came up and said some one was coming with a light. I had lost my hat and the stick Mr. Pullan lent me in the scuffle: I found my hat and proceeded towards the turnpike, where I found the prisoner Taylor in custody. I went to Leeds in a coach which passed soon after. I was very ill and confined to my bed for five weeks, and to my house for six weeks afterwards.

The prisoners said nothing in their defence, and a verdict of "Guilty" was returned.—Sentence of death was immediately pronounced upon the prisoners. Some mitigatory circumstances in these cases induced a commutation of sentence: Shiers and Taylor were transported for life, and Gray imprisoned for a considerable time.

Thomas Robinson pleaded "Not guilty," at York, to an indictment, charging him with stealing, at Wetherby, the mail bags, containing letters from Knaresbro', Harrogate, and Ripley.

The prisoner said nothing in his defence.—The learned judge summed up, and a verdict of "Guilty" was immediately returned by the jury: sentence was passed, and he was executed accordingly.

Isaac Milner, D.D., F.R.S., dean of Carlisle, president of

1820.

queen's college, Cambridge, and lucasian professor of mathematics in that university, by his talents and industry made his way from the humblest ranks of life, to the first honours of one of the first universities in the world. He was born in the neighbourhood of Leeds, and his early years were devoted to mechanical labour. When Joseph Milner, his brother, (see "Annals," page 189), became master of the grammar school, at Hull, he sent for Isaac, who assisted him in the tuition of the lower classes. He was then nineteen years of age, and had been accustomed to work at the loom with a Tacitus by his side. The prospects of this young man were soon turned towards the church; and, after assisting his brother for some time as an usher, he removed to queen's college, Cambridge, where he was entered a sizar. For his new station Mr. Isaac Milner, was admirably fitted; and before he went to the university, he was allowed to have attained a senior optime's knowledge in algebra and mathematics. Possessed of useful ambition, he now aimed at the first honours of his college, and had talents and perseverance sufficient to obtain them. Accordingly, in the year 1774, he became senior wrangler, with the honourable distinction of incomparabilis. He also gained the first mathematical prize. In 1782 he served the office of proctor, and in 1792 was honoured with the vice-chancellorship. Intense study, however, had secretly laid the foundation of a nervous disorder, which undermined the sources of existence, and occasionally embittered the remainder of his life. While at Cambridge, Mr. Isaac Milner became acquainted with Mr. Wilberforce, and cordially and conscientiously embraced the scriptural principles of that gentleman on religious subjects. After a short acquaintance, the two friends proceeded on a tour to the continent, accompanied by Mr. Pitt, but had not travelled far before the last of these gentlemen was recalled, in consequence of some political changes which afterwards elevated him to the premiership. The others accompanied him on his return, and an intimacy ensued, which continued for life. This occurred in 1788, in which year Mr. Milner was elected president of queen's college. He now commenced some salutary reforms, and, recollecting, that when he was an undergraduate, it was the custom of the sizars to wait behind the chairs of the fellows at dinner, he had spirit and good sense enough to abolish those servile distinctions, which were coeval with the days of monkish ignorance and superstition. In 1792 he took out his doctor's degree, and was presented with the deanery of Carlisle. At Hull

1820.

he retained lodgings during the life of his brother. This became a favourite residence; and here he had a complete workshop, where he was accustomed to relax his mind daily from the fatigues of study. He found manual labour a great source of happiness, and spared no expense in obtaining the most perfect and expensive machinery. As a proof of this, his lathe and appendages for turning cost him no less than one hundred and forty guineas. On the death of Dr. Waring, in 1798, Dr. Milner was nominated lucasian professor of mathematics, an office worth about £350 a year. On Saturday, March the 1st, 1820, at the house of his esteemed friend, William Wilberforce, Esq., M.P., and in the 70th year of his age, died this venerable scholar, and exemplary christian; and the final close of such a life must not be announced without a farewell tribute, however trifling to his memory. He was in every respect an extraordinary man. In early youth he rose superior to difficulties, with which few could have successfully contended; and his academical career was eminently distinguished. By the splendour of his reputation while in the vigour of life, and by uncommon zeal and activity in the cause of science, he gave a strong impulse to the study of mathematical and philosophical learning in the university.

April 3rd. Died at his house, in Hanover-square, London, Edward, earl of Harewood, in his 81st year, having survived his eldest son, Edward, six years. His lordship was succeeded by his second son, Henry.——Thomas Gray, a native of Leeds, this year published a seven-and-six-penny octavo, which went through five editions in five years, entitled ‘Observations on a general iron railway, or land steam conveyance, to supersede the necessity of horses in all public vehicles; shewing its vast superiority in every respect over the present pitiful methods of conveyance by turnpike roads and canals.’ In 1820 and 1821 he presented a petition to lord Sidmouth, who was the minister, and in 1822 another to Sir Robert Peel. On the publication of a second edition of his work, he sent circulars to the merchants of Leeds, Manchester, Liverpool, and London. He proposed that the plan should first be tried between Manchester and Liverpool. In 1822, the desirability of having a railway between these two places was considered. A committee was formed, who visited the different railways in the collieries, and reported to a meeting, which determined to apply for an act. The plans of railways which he suggested are published in his work in 1822, and were those that were first carried out. In



1820.

1846 a testimonial was originated by the mayor and other gentlemen of Exeter, in order to acknowledge the great services Mr. Gray had rendered to his age and country in the conception of the national system of railway communication, and his claims on the liberality and gratitude of the nation were urged by several speakers. Whatever effect Gray's labours may have had in directing attention to the subject of railways and in suggesting views to others, he himself gained neither reward nor honour. His late years were passed in obscurity as a dealer in glass on commission at Exeter, in which city he died October, 1848, aged 61 years.

The manufacturing parts of the country having laboured many months under extreme distress, a disposition to tumult and insubordination began to prevail amongst the operative classes, and on the night of Friday, the 31st of March, a simultaneous rising was appointed to take place in the populous villages around Huddersfield, where a large number of pikes were found. A plan of approach from various points, for the purpose of capturing the town, and giving a signal of successful rebellion, by stopping the stage coaches, was organized, and partly carried into effect. Towards the hour of midnight, considerable bodies of men marched from the different villages to their appointed stations, Huddersfield forming the centre and point of attack. The eastern division bivouacked near the obelisk at Kirklees, (called the Dumb Steeple), and committed some excesses on two or three persons, who were travelling in that direction; from some cause not well ascertained, but probably from the detected treachery of their instigators, the insurgents not only here, but at all the other stations, dispersed suddenly, and returned to their homes without making their intended hostile attack. The itinerant emissaries, of which there were numbers passing about the country, represented this as a premature movement, to remedy which, the night of the Wednesday following was appointed for the breaking out of the grand rebellion, and Grange moor, a large plain centrally situated between Huddersfield and Barnsley, was the appointed place of rendezvous. A number of infatuated men, principally from the town and neighbourhood of Barnsley, many of them workmen out of employment, and none above the rank of labourers, repaired to the moor in the course of the night. After waiting till morning in anxious expectation of the approach of a triumphant army, which they had been led to believe was advancing from the north



1820.

on its route to London, they began to disperse, and their movements were considerably quickened by the appearance of a body of the king's troops from Huddersfield. As soon as the first alarm had subsided, several of the insurgents, both in the neighbourhood of Huddersfield and Barnsley, to the number of twenty-two, were apprehended and committed to York castle, where they were arraigned for high treason, at the summer assizes, and charged with conspiring or intending to levy war against the king. On Monday, the 11th of September, an adjourned assize was held for the purpose of proceeding with the trials of these prisoners, but during the evening of the preceding day an offer had been made to them, by the authority of the law officers of the crown, to the effect that if they would consent to plead guilty of the charge preferred against them, their lives should be spared, and the sentence of death which must be passed upon them commuted to some more lenient punishment. Comstive, a disbanded soldier, and one of the heroes of Waterloo, who appears to have been the leader of the Barnsley division, and whose fate, had the trials proceeded, seemed inevitable, exerted himself with great vigour and success to obtain the acquiescence of his fellow-prisoners in this proposal, which was in the end unanimously acceded to. The prisoners, on being placed at the bar, all pleaded guilty, and the final decision of the crown was, that they should all, without exception, be transported beyond the seas for the term of seven years.

On October 11th, the extensive corn mill of Messrs. J. and L. Simpson, in North-street, York, was consumed by fire, with a great quantity of corn. The damage was estimated at £7,000, and the scene of destruction was rendered still more melancholy on the following day by the falling of a ruined wall, which killed a boy and a girl, and severely bruised and wounded about twenty other persons, some of whom were subsequently obliged to undergo amputation.——In November, Leeds and many other towns were illuminated by the numerous friends of queen Caroline, on the abandonment of the bill of pains and penalties, instituted against her majesty by the king. Amongst numerous presents manufactured for the queen, was a penknife containing 2,016 blades, made by a cutler at Sheffield, where a subscription was raised for a splendid piece of silver plate for her majesty, but she did not live to enjoy these specimens of the varied manufactures of her Sheffield friends.——Nov. 29th. Her late majesty, queen Caroline, went to St. Paul's cathedral, to return

1820.-1821.

thanks to Almighty God for the defeat of the proceedings against her, on the bill of pains and penalties being relinquished, in consequence of there being only a majority of nine for the bill being read a third time.

The Leeds Cavalry Barracks, situated at the north entrance of the town, fronting the Roundhay-road, with the principal entrance in Chapeltown-road, were erected in 1820, by Messrs. Craven and Co., of York, at a cost of £28,000, and occupies an area of eleven acres of ground, in an open and healthy locality. The barracks have been lately occupied by artillery as well as cavalry, and are generally head quarters. The largest proportion of a regiment of cavalry are usually stationed here.

1821. On January 3rd, Mr. David Howard's cotton mill, near Leeds bridge, was destroyed by fire.—On April 7th, died, at Bramham park, in his 65th year, James Fox, Esq., nephew of lord Bingley. He was universally respected.—On the 30th of April was laid the first stone of St. George's church, in Barnsley, which has in its windows some honourable testimonials of the abilities of Heaps and Fenton, of Leeds, in the fine and delicate art of glass staining, part of whose other productions may be seen in the windows of Attercliff church, near Sheffield; St. John's, at Ripon; in the new chapel, at Ilkley; and at Chapeltown, near Leeds.—The first annual meeting of the Yorkshire horticultural society was held at the Star inn, Kirkstall bridge, on April 30th.—On July 4th, a great vestry meeting was held, by adjournment, in the White Cloth Hall yard, at Leeds, for the purpose of electing an organist of Leeds parish church, at a salary of £50, which office being in the patronage of the rate-payers, and there being three candidates, a poll was demanded.

For three days Leeds exhibited some of the party spirit and confusion incidental to a contested county election. Numerous processions of voters from the out-towns in the parish came to poll with music and banners. Sixteen booths were erected for the convenience of the clerks of the poll, which at the close stood as follows:—for Mr. Greenwood, 2,608; for Mr. Hopkinson, 1,242; for Mr. Theaker, 259.—On May 7th, died, Henry Clemetshaw, who was fifty years organist of Wakefield parish church. Though he lost his sight at the age of four years, he rose to great eminence in his profession.

Feb. 8th. Sir Francis Burdett was sentenced to three months' imprisonment, and fined £2,000, for a letter addressed to his constituents on the proceedings at Manchester.

1821.

March 31st, a ploughman turned up at Lingwell gate, near Wakefield, a quantity of clay moulds, in which coin had been cast by the Romans, and four crucibles, in which the metal had been melted. Similar antiquities were found a century before at the place, and silver Roman coins have often been found there.——The inhabitants of Leeds, &c., petitioned against the wool tax.

Napoleon Bonaparte died on the island of St. Helena, on the 5th of May, after a painful and lingering decline.

July 19th. The coronation of George IV. took place under circumstances of great splendour. On this occasion queen Caroline made an attempt to enter Westminster abbey, for the purpose of witnessing the ceremony, but was repelled by the military officers who guarded the door; an insult which gave such a shock to her health, as to cause her death on the 8th of August.——July 19th was laid the first stone of the new church at Pudsey, by the Rev. D. Jenkins. It has 2,000 sittings, and was built under the million act, from plans by the late Mr. Taylor, architect, of Leeds.

During an alarming storm of thunder and lightning, on July 20th, the electric fluid struck Manningham hall, near Bradford, the seat of E. C. Lister, Esq., and having thrown down a stack of chimneys, passed through the dining-room, where about thirty persons were sitting, but fortunately they were but slightly injured, excepting a servant girl, whose arm was severely scorched; most of the bell wires were melted, and the walls of the apartment bore visible marks of the awful visitation. On Sunday, September 16th, a numerous body of Primitive Methodists having crowded into the upper room of a wool warehouse, at Keighley, the floor suddenly gave way, and precipitated them into the apartment below, where from fifty to sixty persons were severely crushed and wounded; one of them died on the following day, and eleven had broken bones.

Holmfirth, near Huddersfield, being situated at the junction of the Holm and Ribbleden rivulets, in a deep valley under those stupendous mountains termed the English appenines, is liable to frequent inundations. On September 21st, after a continuance of heavy rain, the great reservoir above Black-Sike mill burst its embankment, and rolled down the valley a prodigious volume of water, which forced down the buildings in its course, leaving the inhabitants and the workmen in the mill adjoining, and at Burn Lee dyehouse below, only just time to hurry to the heights, and escape its destructive fury.

The flood commenced at seven o'clock in the evening, and the water had subsided at ten, but the inhabitants did not dare to retire to rest. The next day presented a truly affecting scene of desolation; mud, stones, timber, broken furniture, work tools, and prostrate trees were spread over the fields for a considerable extent, and the herbage, fences, and buildings in many places were destroyed. Happily no lives were lost, although the loss of property was very great.——Huddersfield was first lighted with gas on October 1st, by the contractors, Martin Cawood and Son, of Leeds.

At York, on July 2nd, the minimum of the thermometer was 36 degrees, and on November 1st, 49 degrees, being 13 degrees colder at the former than the latter period.

The Leeds Guardian Society and General Penitentiary, 48, St. James's-street, was established in 1821. Its object is to afford an asylum for females, who have departed from the path of virtue: its operations have been highly beneficial, but the resources are by no means commensurate with its beneficent and christian design.

The Leeds General Eye and Ear Infirmary, 167, Park-lane, was first established in Kirkgate, 1821. Its objects were to afford to the poor gratuitous relief in the diseased organs to which it refers. It is supported by annual subscriptions and voluntary donations. The patients are admitted every Tuesday and Saturday, from twelve to one o'clock.——It has been conjectured, and apparently on good grounds, that the Romans had some small establishment at Dewsbury. A Roman spear was found some years ago upon the estate of Mr. Halliley; and in 1821, when an excavation was made for the purpose of laying some foundations for offices, a small building of stone was discovered, covered with a strong arch, about three feet below the surface of the ground; and at a short distance from the building an ancient well walled round with masonry, about eight yards deep, filled up with rubble stones, and supposed to have remained for many centuries in a state of obscurity and uselessness.

Ann Barber, a native of Yorkshire, was born about 1784. She was educated amid the persons called Ranters. She was in humble, but not the lowest circumstances; and in her youth esteemed handsome. She married in 1805 to one James Barber, a laborious and respectable man who resided near Wakefield. They lived very happily for some years, when a person named William Thompson became acquainted with them. This man ultimately became a

1821.

lodger in their house, and there an illicit intercourse commenced between Mrs. Barber and him. She at length left her husband and resided with her paramour at Potovens, near Wakefield: they resided together a week as man and wife, and then she returned to her husband's house. She returned on the 4th of January, 1821; and on the 16th of March she administered poison to her husband, thereby causing his death. For this crime she was tried at the York summer assizes of 1821, found guilty, sentenced to death, and afterwards executed.

The electors of Grampound having been convicted of bribery and corruption, a bill was brought into parliament by lord John Russell, during the session of 1821, to disfranchise that borough; and in order to render the number of burgesses to serve in parliament complete, it was proposed that the borough of Leeds, having, as the bill sets forth, "of late years become a place of great trade, population, and wealth, should return two burgesses to serve in parliament, in lieu of the said borough of Grampound." As the bill originally stood, every man in the borough, occupying property to the amount of £10 a year, would have had a vote; but at the instance of J. A. Stuart Wortley, Esq., then one of the Yorkshire members, the qualification of a voter was raised to £20 per annum, and the bill passed the House of Commons: it was, however, re-modelled in the House of Lords, and, instead of two members being returned for Leeds, it was finally enacted that "the county of York should return four members instead of two," which indeed gave more general satisfaction than the first proposal.—The curious cave at Kirkdale, twenty-five miles north of York, was discovered this year, and found to contain the antediluvian bones of the hyæna, tiger, bear, wolf, fox, weasel; the elephant, rhinoceros, hippopotamus, and horse; the ox, and three species of deer; the hare, rabbit, water rat, and mouse; together with bones of the following birds, viz.: the raven, pigeon, lark, small duck, and one about the size of a thrush.

Curious epitaph in the parish church of Brighton:—

"IN MEMORY OF PHCEBE HESSEL, WHO WAS BORN AT STEPNEY, IN THE YEAR 1713. SHE SERVED FOR MANY YEARS AS A PRIVATE SOLDIER IN THE 5TH REGIMENT OF FOOT IN DIFFERENT PARTS OF EUROPE, AND IN THE YEAR 1745, FOUGHT UNDER THE COMMAND OF THE DUKE OF CUMBERLAND AT THE BATTLE OF FONTENAY, WHERE SHE RECEIVED A BAYONET WOUND IN HER ARM. HER LONG LIFE, WHICH COMMENCED IN THE REIGN OF QUEEN ANNE, EXTENDED TO THE REIGN OF GEORGE IV., BY WHOSE MUNIFICENCE SHE RECEIVED COMFORT AND SUPPORT IN HER LATTER YEARS. SHE DIED AT BRIGHTON, (WHERE SHE HAD LONG RESIDED), DECEMBER 12TH, 1821, AGED 108 YEARS."

1821.-1822.

The census of this year showed that the number of inhabited houses in the township of Leeds was 10,338; and in the borough 17,418. The number of houses building in the township were 69; in the borough 115. The number of uninhabited houses in the township was 857; in the borough 1170. The number of males in the township was 23,178; in the borough 40,548. The number of females in the township was 25,425; in the borough 43,198. The total population of the township was 48,603; in the borough 83,746.

1822. On Sunday, February 3rd, the river Aire overflowed its banks, and at Leeds inundated Meadow-lane, Water-lane, and Hunslet-lane. The floods at Bradford, and all places communicating with the Craven hills, were sudden and alarming, and did considerable damage, especially in Bradford; where Mr. Benjamin Baines, foreman at Messrs. Maude and Co.'s, chemists, unfortunately lost his life, after saving most of the perishable property in the lower story of his own house and workshop, and assisting Mr. Bradford, at the Swan inn, to remove his; having employed himself actively till four o'clock in the morning, in rendering assistance to others, he returned home, and whilst examining a water mark which he had set up on the wall of the laboratory, the heap of rubbish on which he stood gave way, and precipitated him into a rapid current below, in which he perished unseen, and his body was not found till Wednesday, when it was discovered in the stream at Bolton, two miles below: he left a widow and two children. The storm was severely felt at Wakefield, and at York the Ouse rose five feet in the course of a few hours.

At eight in the evening of February 6th, a fire broke out in Mr. Marshall's stuff manufactory, in Bowling-lane, near Bradford, and the two upper stories were speedily destroyed; but the stock and machinery in the lower parts of the building were saved from the flames. The property not being insured, a loss of £4,000 was sustained.

On the night of the 7th of February in this year, a small publican named Thomas Hellewell, and his family, residing at Bruntcliffe, were aroused by fire in the stack garth—one or two of the stacks were consumed, and, had it not been for the powerful and active assistance of the neighbours, there is no doubt that the flames would soon have reached the mistal, where thirteen head of cattle were housed. The detection



1822.

of the incendiary was accomplished by means the most extraordinary. A slight fall of snow had just covered the ground, and footsteps were clearly discernible about the stack yard, formed by very remarkable shoes, the sole of one of them having been curiously mended, and the nails being very prominent. Hellewell pursued this track with singular activity and resolution, and succeeded, after a devious chace, in capturing the incendiary at Beeston, with the very shoes on his feet, before eight o'clock the same morning. John Vickers proved to be his name, and revenge for a very trivial provocation was his motive. He was convicted at York, and only escaped from execution by being transported for life.

Mr. James Warbrick, a worsted stuff manufacturer, of Bradford, having procured one of the then obnoxious power looms, in 1822, sent it as privately as possible to a mill at Shipley, where its operations were to commence. The people, however, soon ascertained the fact, public notice was given of its arrival in all the neighbouring villages, a great number of weavers assembled and threatened to level the mill with the ground if the loom was not instantly taken away, it had no sooner been placed in a cart, protected by a body of constables, than the exasperated weavers rushed upon it with irresistible fury, the constables were compelled to seek safety in flight, the loom was destroyed, and its roller and warp was dragged in triumph through Baildon. The unfortunate operatives were, however, unable to obstruct the general adoption of the detested machines, they were soon almost universally introduced into the manufactories, and there are now a vast number of power looms in active operation in Bradford and its neighbourhood.

On the 25th of March, this year, as two labourers were trenching the land for liquorice at paper-mill field, near St. Thomas's hill, Pontefract, one of them struck his spade against a stone coffin, which weighed about a ton and a half, and, on examination, was found to contain the skeleton of a man, with the head between the legs, in good preservation; these were supposed to be the decapitated remains of Thomas, earl of Lancaster, who suffered on the 22nd of March, 1322, exactly 500 years previously. The coffin and its contents were removed into the grounds of R. P. Milnes, Esq., Frystone hall, where they now remain, inclosed within a palisade.



1822.

Near a windmill, which now occupies the site of St. Thomas's chapel, great quantities of beautiful carved stones were dug up in 1841, and were removed by the earl of Mexborough, as owner of the soil; from the sculpture of the stones, the building to which they belonged seems to have been of Gothic architecture.

In April, a Mr. Wright, at Sheffield, *walked* 1000 miles in 1000 successive hours.—In July, five men were killed by fire damp, in a coal pit, near Sheffield.

August 12th, the marquis of Londonderry, (late lord Castlereagh,) secretary for foreign affairs, committed suicide at his house, North Cray.—May 13th, died at Milton, near Peterborough, aged 74, the Rt. Honourable Charlotte Countess Fitzwilliam, daughter of Wm. Ponsonby, earl of Beesborough, by Caroline, eldest daughter of Wm. duke of Devonshire. She was married, July 11th, 1770, to Charles Wm. Wentworth, earl Fitzwilliam, by whom she left one son, Charles Wm. Wentworth Fitzwilliam, viscount Milton, who first sat in parliament as one of the members for the county of York, in the year 1807.—May 20th, after a severe thunder storm, a cloud burst on the hills above Holmfirth and Meltham, and from the junction of the channels of those valleys, sent down the vale below a breast of water from seven to nine feet high; but happily no lives were lost.—In the spring of this year, in Thompson's garden, near Well Close place, Leeds, was found a small gold coin, of the date of the second year of James I. It was called a half-crown, and was in value one eighth part of a coin, called an Unitie, from the union of England and Scotland. Legend on the head side, "J.D.G. *Rosa Sine Spina*, viz., James by the grace of God: "a rose without a thorn." On the obverse side, "*Tueatur Unita Deus*," "God guards the Union."

June 9th, the extensive corn and scribbling mills, at Calverley, were burnt down; damage £5,000.

July 13th, was completed, under the superintendence of J. L. M'Adam, Esq., the Leeds, Pontefract, and Barnsdale Turnpike Road, which not only passes through a pleasanter country, but is leveller, and four miles nearer from Leeds to Doncaster than the old north road by way of Ferrybridge.

July 5th, a "Peace Society," was formed in Huddersfield, for the purpose of co-operating with a similar institution in London, "for the promotion of permanent and universal peace."

July 31st. The inhabitants of Leeds met in the parish

1822.

church, and, by a great majority, determined to remove the Middle-row, an ancient pile of buildings, which included the Moot-hall, and extended along the centre of Briggate, from Kirkgate end, a little above Wood-street, contracting the road so much on each side, that it was dangerous for two carriages to pass each other. The expense of effecting this great improvement was estimated at £12,000, it cost, however, £15,097 4s. 2d., which was agreed to be levied upon the inhabitants, by five annual rates of five pence in the pound, and one rate of twopence in the pound.

The demolition was completed May 30th, 1825. The first rate was levied in 1825; and the debt cancelled in 1833. The buildings were not removed till 1825.

On August 31st, all the carts attending Leeds market with vegetables, fruit, &c., and which formerly stood in Briggate, took their station in the Vicar's Croft.

William Herschell, a celebrated astronomer, born in Hanover, in 1738, died in 1822; the son of an able musician; for some time followed his father's profession; in April, 1759, settled in England, where, with difficulty, he gained a livelihood by teaching. In 1765 he was appointed organist at Halifax, and in 1766 at Bath. Then his condition began to improve. From the study of music he was led to the study of mathematics, and thence he proceeded to astronomy, which he at first cultivated only as a recreation; but soon having gained brilliant success therein, he gave up his profession and devoted himself exclusively to his new pursuit. Too poor to buy telescopes, he began to make them himself, (1774), and soon formed instruments superior in execution and power to any before known; among others a telescope forty feet long, which took four years of labour. (1785-89). With the aid of this instrument he made the most unexpected discoveries; thus, he discovered a new planet, Uranus, (March 13th 1781), then his satellites, (1787), and two new satellites of Saturn, (1789); he ascertained that the solar system is not fixed, and that it is in motion round the constellation Hercules. He also gave special attention to the Nebulae, perceived in the white masses of which they consist a prodigious number of small stars, and discovered among them central stars round which the rest regularly revolve. King George III. showed particular favour to Herschell, granted him a pension for life of 300 guineas; and, in order to have the astronomer near him, gave him a residence at Slough, near Windsor castle, and there Herschell made the greater part

1822. 1823.

of his observations. Herschell had for an auxiliary in the construction of his telescopes one of his brothers, and in the recording of his observations his sister Caroline, who made some discoveries herself. He left a son, John Herschell, who, inheriting his scientific tastes and his secrets for the formation of telescope glasses, has gained high distinction among men of science.

The town of Bradford up to 1822 had been lighted by oil lamps. In that year an act received the royal assent for lighting Bradford and the neighbourhood with gas. The subscribers originally consisted of forty-one inhabitants of the place, who were incorporated under the title of the "Bradford gas-light company," and empowered to raise a capital of £15,000, in £25 shares—no subscriber to hold more than forty shares. By this act it is rendered imperative upon the gas company to supply the public lamps of the town with gas, of such a quality as should at all times afford a cheaper and better light than could be obtained from oil; and that "every contract or agreement which shall be entered into for lighting with gas such public lamps by the said company, shall contain a clause providing that it shall be obligatory on the said company that such public lamps shall, at all times, be better and cheaper lighted by the said company than could be done by oil." This obligation was imposed on the company as an equivalent for being allowed to break up the pavement and soil of the streets, &c., to lay the pipes.

Aug. 22nd. A numerous and respectable Reform meeting was held at York, in the long room of Etridge's hotel, under the presidency of Walter Fawkes, Esq.

Oct. 29th. The term of Henry Hunt, Esq's, imprisonment in Ilchester gaol expired, and the event was hailed in most of the Yorkshire towns with enthusiastic joy by the numerous bodies of reformers.

December 7th, that fine old mansion, Burley hall, near Otley, the seat of the Rev. T. F. Wilson, was, with all its costly furniture, destroyed by fire. The loss was about £4,000.

About the close of this year the Yorkshire Philosophical Society was founded; and in the year 1827 obtained a grant from the crown of nearly three acres of ground within the ancient precincts of the monastery at York, including the remains of the abbey church, with the exception of the choir, as a site for buildings appropriated to the purposes of science.

1823. Jan. 22nd. The freeholders of Yorkshire held

1823.

another Reform meeting at York castle, for the purpose of petitioning for a more equitable representation of the people in parliament.——Wakefield was first lighted with gas January 20th.

The first stone of St. Mary's church, Quarry-hill, Leeds, was laid on the 29th of January, 1823, by the vicar of Leeds, the Rev Richard Fawcett. This edifice was built under parliamentary sanction. It was opened in 1827. There is nothing very striking in its style of architecture, being a mere specimen of what is termed "Carpenter's Gothic." Its external appearance is somewhat incongruous, and although the tower rises to a considerable height, it is rather heavy in its general effect. Its erection was under the direction of Mr. Taylor, architect; and cost £12,518 10s. 8d. It will accommodate above 1,200 persons; upwards of 800 of the seats are free. The burial ground is very extensive. A little to the east of the church is a large and convenient school-room, which was built after the consecration of the church. The present incumbent is the Rev. John Bickerdike, M.A.——The first stone of Christ church, Meadow-lane, was laid on the same day, by lord Pollington, assisted by the masonic body, of which he was the P.G.M. for the West-Riding, after which the masons celebrated the event at their hall, where his lordship presided. These were the first of the parliamentary churches founded in Leeds. It is a handsome Gothic edifice. R. D. Chantrell, Esq., was the architect. It consists of a nave, chancel, and aisles, with a massive tower rising to the height of 127 feet, and is one of the decorated style of the 14th century. The main entrance in Meadow-lane, consists of a pointed arch flanked by small pannelled buttresses, and enriched by a pedimental canopy crocketed, and terminating in a beautiful cruciform finale; in the spandrels are shields, that to the right charged with the borough arms, and the other with those of the archbishop of York, impaling that of his see; above is some very curious work in quatrefoil panning, over which is a pointed window of three lights, with cinquefoil heads, a transom and tracery in the sweep of the arch, besides which are many other adornments. The interior has a very commanding aspect. The aisles, which are divided from the body of the church by six depressed pointed arches, resting on lofty columns, formed by an union of four long and four small cylinders. At the west end is a spacious gallery, in which is an organ, consisting of twelve stops, and also five in the swell. Under the gallery is an octagonal font of very chaste exe-

cution, adorned with quatrefoils. Over the altar is a painting of Christ instituting the sacrament, by Brockendon, which was exhibited in one of the northern society's exhibitions in Leeds, and cost £100. The church will accommodate 1,249 persons, and 800 of the sittings are free. The incumbency is at present vacant.

The town of Halifax was first lighted with gas on the 15th of February.—George Ridsdale Esq., laid the first stone of the new church, at Alverthorpe, near Wakefield, on March 12th.—On April 23rd, Benjamin Sadler, Esq., laid the first stone of St. Mark's church, Woodhouse, near Leeds: a very massive stone edifice, built in the style of the 15th century, and is the third church in the town erected under parliamentary sanction, at a cost of £10,000. In 1852, the large five-lighted east window was fitted in with stained glass, which is remarkably rich, and illustrates the leading events in the life of our Saviour. The window was presented by the late Mrs Blesard, of Blenheim-terrace, in memory of her husband and their four children. The church will accommodate 1,500 persons. The vicarage is valued at £140 per annum. The Rev. Samuel Kettlewell is the vicar.

The Bazaar, New Shambles, and Fish Market.—This range of buildings was originated this year, by a company of shareholders. and in 1826 was opened to the public. The entrance to the bazaar is arched, flanked with two attached Tuscan pillars, over which is a niche, surmounted with a couchant lion of large size, which was modelled under the superintendence of the late Mr. J. Rhodes, artist. The building is 219 feet long, and lighted from the top. On each side are two streets, Cheapside and Fleet-street, of the same length, opening into Briggate, and called "The Shambles," where a good show of butchers' meat is exhibited. At the east end of the bazaar (now used as a carpet warehouse) is the fish market, the stone pillars of which were removed from the Old Cross in the Head Row.

June 16th. A meeting was held at the Leeds court house, of a number of persons favourable to the establishment of a public market place in the south division of the town, at which it was determined to form a company for that purpose, under the denomination of the Leeds South Market Company, when very commodious buildings were erected at the expense of £22,000.—The first stone of Christ church, near Huddersfield, which was endowed by John Whitacre, Esq., of Woodhouse, and built near his mansion

1823.

for the hamlets of Deighton, Bradley, and Fartown, was laid July 24th, by Thomas Walker, Esq., of Berry hill, near Mansfield, but formerly of Masbro' iron works, near Rotherham. By an especial act of parliament, the patronage of this church is vested for ever in the founder and his heirs.

Aug. 7th. The first stones of two new churches in Dewsbury parish were laid, viz.: St. John's, on Dewsbury moor, by John Haigh, Esq., of Crow nest, and St. Paul's, at Hanging Heaton, by the Rev. John Buckworth, A.M., the vicar.——Aug. 28th. The Fleece coach, on its road to Sheffield, was overturned at the foot of Shelly bank, six miles from Huddersfield, owing to the coachman driving at full speed down the hill, without locking the wheel. Amongst the passengers were nine Methodist preachers on their way to the conference at Sheffield; two of them, the Rev. Mr. Sargent and the Rev. Edward Baker Lloyd, were killed on the spot, and six of the others received either fractures, dislocations, or dangerous contusions, from which they ultimately recovered. A verdict of manslaughter was returned against the driver.——Aug. 23rd. The first stone of St. Matthew's church, at Wilsden, near Bradford, was laid by the Rev. Henry Heap, vicar of Bradford.

Aug. 28th. A meeting of the principal inhabitants of Leeds, and within a mile of the bars of the town, was held in the parish church, where they unanimously agreed, that the vicarage-house, with the out-buildings, yards, gardens, and croft, comprising altogether about 9,758 square yards of land, should be purchased for the purpose of widening the contiguous streets and lanes, and improving the market then held there, by providing ample and gratuitous accommodation for the dealers in cattle, pigs, hay, vegetables, fruit, and other produce. The farmers and graziers subsequently preferred paying a small toll.—In the same year, the town and parish of Leeds was blest with another great public benefit, viz.: the commutation of all the mixed and personal tithes, payable to the vicar and clerk of Leeds, for an annual income of £500, arising from £14,000, one half of which was the munificent gift of Richard Fountayne Wilson, Esq., M.P., and the other half was raised by subscription. Before this commutation, the vicar of Leeds was entitled to the tithes or agistment of herbage of turnips, sown and eaten upon the ground by barren and unprofitable cattle, which, if sold, the tithes were to be paid by the occupier of the ground, after the rate of one-tenth part of the money the turnips were sold for: to the agistment of barren and unprofitable cattle, and also the



1823.

tithe of potatoes grown and gathered, and turnips pulled from the ground. He was entitled to a customary payment of threepence yearly from each householder, residing within the bars of the town, in respect of his dwelling-house, and one penny yearly for an easter offering, from every householder in the parish; of twopence yearly in lieu of tithes of ancient garden; of twopence yearly in lieu of tithes of ancient orchard; of one penny in respect of each "plow," kept upon every tenement in the parish; of twopence in lieu of tithes for a calf dropt, and of the milk of each cow; of one halfpenny in lieu of eggs of each duck; of twopence yearly in lieu of tithe of hens' eggs laid upon each tenement; and likewise to an offering or customary payment yearly for and in respect of every person above the age of sixteen years, resident in the family of each householder in the parish, such sum to be paid by the householder. And the said vicar was entitled to receive the tithe of rapeseed, common and other modern gardens; and in case any parishioner kept twelve cows, to a yearly customary payment of six shillings in lieu of tithe milk; for six cows, two shillings; and in case any parishioner had six calves dropt in his tenement in one year, six shillings; five calves, one shilling and fourpence; four calves, tenpence; as customary payment in lieu of tithes of such calves; likewise the said vicar was entitled to a customary payment of twopence yearly from each householder residing within the bars of the said town of Leeds; also for the tithe agistment of one dry or unprofitable cow, one penny; and also one penny in lieu of tithes of bees, except when the parishioner had six swarms of bees in one year, in which case one swarm was due; of one penny in lieu of tithes of eggs laid by each turkey; of sixpence in lieu of each foal dropt within the parish; and generally the said vicar was entitled to all other tithes, great and small offerings, oblations and obventions, and other ecclesiastical dues and duties within the said parish, (save and except the tithes of corn, grain, and hay, and the tithes of two mills in the said parish, commonly called the king's mills; which mills were formerly belonging to the earl of Lincoln, afterwards to the crown, then to J. P. Neville, Esq., and are now in the possession of Edward Hudson, Esq.

On September 4th, Mr. W. W. Sadler ascended in his balloon at Leeds, from the area of the Coloured Cloth Hall, and having been in the air about 50 minutes, and travelled in a direct line 36 miles, he descended at South Cliff, 11 miles west of Beverley.——Next day Mr. Green ascended at Leeds, from the area of the White Cloth Hall,



1823.

in his large and splendid balloon, which was 107 feet in circumference, composed of 700 yards of silk, and capable of containing 136,210 gallons of gas. After a fine lofty voyage, he descended at Haxey, nine miles north of Gainsbro', and found the lower current of air blowing a hurricane, so that the moment his grappling iron caught firm hold of a tree, the cable broke, and he was thrown out of the car, without receiving any serious injury; whilst the balloon, lightened of its burthen, reascended to a vast altitude, and speedily disappeared in the direction of the German ocean, across which it was borne to the coast of Holland, where it was found by a Dutchman, who required no less a sum than £18 for its restoration, though it was much torn, and the barometer lost.

On September 23rd and three following days, was held the first Yorkshire Musical Festival, in the spacious nave and side aisles of York minster, for the benefit of the York county hospital, and the three general infirmaries of Leeds, Hull, and Sheffield. At an early hour of the first day of the festival, all the principal roads leading to York were thronged with carriages of every description, so that by ten o'clock the streets were crowded with vehicles and visitors hastening to the cathedral, where every seat was occupied long before the grand performance commenced, and many who wished for admission, could not even be accommodated with standing places. The floor of the extensive nave and its aisles was boarded over, and the passages to the seats covered with matting. An immense gallery was also constructed at the west end, projecting 83 feet, and the seats covered with crimson cloth. The orchestra was erected beneath the great tower, and the whole was fitted up with great splendour and magnificence, in a style suited to the superb gothic character of the edifice. The performances consisted of selections of sacred music, from Handel, Haydn, Mozart, Beethoven, Graun, Croft, Pergolesi, Marcello, Leo, and Jomelli. The number of the vocal band was 285, including madame Catalani, and other eminent vocalists, and the instrumentalists numbered 180. Thomas Greatorex, Esq., was the conductor. The number of persons present on the first day, was, 3,850; on the second, 4,685; on the third, 4,840; and on the fourth, 4,145. The amount of the receipts, including the evening performances in the assembly rooms, was £16,174 16s. 8d., out of which sum, after paying all expenses, £7,200 remained for the benefit of the four charities, each of which received £1,800. On the third day, madame Catalani sung Luther's

celebrated hymn, accompanied on the trumpet by Mr. Harper, and this venerable and simple melody produced a greater impression than any other during the whole of this extended festival, being admirably suited to the powerful voice and majestic style of that celebrated vocalist, whilst the sound of the trumpet, proceeding from nearly the top of the orchestra, appeared as if it descended from the open space of the great tower above; and the thrill of awe, not unmingled even with terror, which it produced, was such as no pen can describe; and the harmony, when reinforced by all the voices in chorus, was inexpressibly powerful and affecting. Since this, there have been two other musical festivals in the cathedral, for the benefit of the same charities, under the patronage of the late king, George IV., and presidency of the archbishop.

The second grand musical festival for the benefit of the same charities was held September 13th, 1825, and three following days, when the entire band, vocal and instrumental, consisted of 615 performers, and the loud pealing thunder of the choruses, produced by their united exertions, was grand and almost overpowering. Additional galleries were erected in the side aisles, the orchestra was of ample extent, and, like the other temporary erections, was handsomely decorated, and lined with crimson. An ingenious apparatus was contrived by Mr. Ward, an eminent organ builder, of York, by which the organ was played from the orchestra, at a distance of 125 feet from the instrument. The total number of persons present at the four performances, was 20,873, and the total receipts £20,876 10s., including the evening concerts, &c.

The third musical festival was held September 23rd, 1828, and the three following days; the aggregate number of the band was 618, and the number of persons present at the four performances, was 14,425, and the total receipts, £16,769 11s. 6d. Mr. Cramer was the conductor.

The Leeds Free Grammar School was repaired and greatly enlarged this year, at a cost of £1,087.

As the servant man and boy of Mr. Evers, of Fleet mills, near Leeds, were turning up some ground on the low side of Wakefield Outwood, in order to the erection of posts and rails, the boy struck his mattock against what he conceived to be a large stone, but which, he being unable to remove, informed the man, who on examining the supposed stone found it to be a piece of Roman pottery, the cover of which the boy had accidentally broken: the whole mass was then extracted, and found to be filled with Roman

1823.

copper coins of various emperors ; they appeared imbedded together in an incrustation of verdigris, which, when removed, showed many of them in a state as perfect as when fresh from the mint. The whole of these weighed 62 lbs., and consisted principally of coins of the emperor Constantine and his sons Constans, Constantius, and Crispus, of Licinius and Macentius, together with the city coins of Rome and Constantinople.—September 26th, the workmen, whilst making a new road from Hunslet to Bellisle, near Leeds, uncovered a stone coffin, containing some thigh, leg, and arm bones, under a covering of plaster, which, when removed, exhibited the cast of a human body, with the impression of the linen which had enveloped it. The face appeared to have been covered with a semicircular glass, which was partially decomposed; the skull had perished, but the teeth remained in excellent preservation. A considerable number of glass beads were found in the coffin, of various colours and sizes; but, though the coffin and its contents were carefully washed, no coin or inscription was found to fix the date of the interment. Mr. Blenkinsop took charge of the coffin, which appeared to be of the Bramley Fall stone, and was covered with a lid five inches thick.—October 23rd, was laid the foundation stone of the South market, in Hunslet and Meadow-lanes, Leeds, by George Banks, Esq. This market was erected from designs by R. D. Chantrell, Esq. In the centre is a circular temple, composed of twelve Doric pillars outside, and the same number inside. The outer ones support a bold entablature, and above rises a large cupola, used by the committee for meetings. It is enriched by twelve small attached columns, and covered in with a hemispherical leaded dome. Encircling this building, is a double series of stalls, standing back to back, with eaves projecting over the causeway; these are enclosed within the outer buildings, which are arranged quadrangularly, and consist of an inn and shops, with dwelling-houses over them. The cost of the building was £22,000, raised in £50 shares. This market is not used except for the holding of the leather fairs.

Nov. 5th., the foundation stone of Shipley church, dedicated to St. Paul, was laid by the vicar of Bradford.

On the night of December 3rd, Leeds and the country for many miles round were visited by a dreadful storm of wind, which blew down many chimneys, and several unfinished buildings, amongst which was a house at the top of Marsh-lane, (which overwhelmed a weaver's shop); part of the South market, the lofty chimneys of Mr. Hirst's

1823.-1824.

paper mill, and of Crank mill, near Morley; a factory five stories high, at Ovenden, and many stacks of chimneys at York, Wakefield, Leeds, &c., but happily no lives were lost, though many persons were seriously injured.

Dec. 11th. George Rawson Esq., laid the first stone of the Independent chapel, in Queen-street, Leeds, called Queen-street chapel. It is built of brick, the front exhibiting a projection with the pediment, which is ornamented by four Tuscan pilasters on the first story, supporting a frieze and entablature, on which are raised four Ionic pilasters, supporting the cornice and attic, which is also divided by smaller pilasters. The interior is very neat, with accommodation for 2,000 persons. There are two galleries, one of which is appropriated to the children of the Sunday schools. A burial ground is attached. The Rev. Wm. Guest is the minister.——Wakefield church spire was again repaired, and raised to its original height, 237 feet, by Mr. Charles Mountain, of Hull. A vane of lighter weight than the old one was placed on the top.

1824. Jan. 7th. The dressing shop, with its machinery, belonging to Messrs. Sayner, of Hunslet-lane, Leeds, was destroyed by fire.——Jan. 19th. A Roman brick and tile kiln was discovered, twenty inches below the surface, on B. H. Allen, Esq.'s estate, at Slack, in Longwood township. The tiles were very perfect, together with several tubes used for conducting heat from the fire to the kiln; the former were twelve inches long by five broad, and one thick, and chequered, as also were the tubes. A piece of tile or brick was inscribed, "COH. III. BRE." an inscription which Camden says was often found upon bricks at Grimescar, near Huddersfield. Slack is supposed to be the Cambodunum of Antonine.——On the extinction of vicarial tithes in the borough of Leeds, in pursuance of the 5th Geo. IV, cap. 8, it was ordered by the corporation on the 5th of February in this year, that the treasurer should pay out of their stock such a sum not exceeding £500, as might "be wanted to complete an object attended with such manifest advantage to the parishioners at large."

In February, a piece of coal, completely covered with cockle shells, was found at the depth of 150 feet, in a mine near Dewsbury.——Feb. 6th. The extensive premises occupied by Messrs. Stirr and Horsfield, as machine makers, John Hilton, a tobacco manufacturer, and Charles Atkinson, a cloth frizer, in York-street, Leeds, were destroyed by fire.——A number of silver coins, of the reigns of Mary, Elizabeth, Charles I., and James I. were

1824.

found March 11th, under an ancient building at Scholes, near Leeds.——Died, on the 25th of February, this year, aged 89 years, Richard Birdsall, for sixty-two years a very highly respected local preacher in the Methodist connexion. His labours were incessant in the service of religion—labours from which no opposition could deter, and no flattery seduce. He was a preacher amongst the Methodists at a time when its profession was considered a reproach, and when that body were subject to a great deal of persecution. He was a pioneer in the cause, and had to bear the brunt of the battle. He is still remembered by hundreds and thousands of Methodists in Yorkshire as an eccentric, yet sincere, simple, and impressive preacher of the gospel: abounding in faith, love, and zeal. He was born on the 14th of March, 1735, at Kirby, in the parish of Kirby-Overblow, in Yorkshire. He died at York, and was interred in the church yard of St. Lawrence, without Walmgate bar.

The Leeds Public Dispensary, situate 171, North-street, was established by public subscription in this year, and was intended for the relief of such sick poor as were, by circumstances, rendered unable to avail themselves of the advantages and benefits of the infirmary. Its chief peculiarity consists in the visitation of the poor in their own homes by the medical officers. Many hundred cases of disease are thus annually treated, which could otherwise obtain no relief, the sufferers being too poor to provide themselves with medical assistance, and being at the same time unable to leave their families to seek the benefits of the infirmary. The funds of the Institution are but very small, the total amount of annual subscriptions only reaching £531 4s. 6d. The institution is under the management of twelve gentlemen.—Treasurer, Saml. James Brown, Esq., 28, Commercial-street; physicians, Dr. Wilson, Dr. Chadwick, Dr. Heaton; surgeons, W. R. Cass, Esq., Henry Chorley, Esq., and Claude Wheelhouse, Esq.; apothecary and secretary, Mr. Fred. Holmes; auditors, J. D. Luccock, Esq., and C. G. Maclea, Esq.

The Leeds Mechanics' Institution and Literary Society was established on the 1st of December, this year, in a confined and remote locality, at the back of Park-row.

The names of the first officers of the institution were—Benjamin Gott, Esq., president; John Marshall, Esq., and John Luccock, Esq., vice-presidents; John Darnton, Esq., treasurer; Mr. Todd, secretary; and the following directors:—Rev. G. Walker, Mr. Cawood, Mr.

1824.

Rawson, Dr. Williamson, Mr. E. S. George, Mr. E. Baines, jun., Dr. Hunter, Mr. West, Mr. John Heaps, Mr. S. Petty, jun., Mr. Thompson, Mr. J. O. March, Mr. Joshua Dixon, Mr. Wood, and Mr. W. Davies.

The present hall is a plain but tolerably commodious building, situated in South-parade. The ground floor is occupied for schools connected with the institute, and the upper consists of the large room used as a lecture and news-room, and also as a library. At the end is an elevated platform, divided by columns, which serves as a rostrum for the lecturer. The walls are adorned with busts of literary and scientific men, and an excellent full-length portrait of the late Edward Baines, Esq., (who was one of the best friends of the institution) painted by Richard Waller, of Leeds. The portrait was presented by subscribers, chiefly confined to the members of the institute. But a far more valuable and useful covering of the walls is found in the books constituting the library, now numbering 11,000 volumes, many of them of a highly scientific character, and circulating widely amongst its 1,646 members. The total issue for 1858 was 36,831. The books are so arranged as to be closed in when the room is required for lectures, &c., and the newspapers, ordinarily arranged over the entire room, are then removed to a lower one. The news-room is open daily from 9 a.m. to 10 p.m., and contains 11 daily papers, 28 weekly newspapers and periodicals, 3 fortnightly periodicals, 41 monthly, and 15 quarterly journals. The session commences in October, and lectures are delivered weekly, or oftener; the usual evenings are Monday and Wednesday, commencing at eight o'clock. The officers of the society consist of a president, two vice-presidents, treasurer, two honorary secretaries, and eighteen directors; secretary and librarian, Mr. John Pickering; assistant librarian, Mr. James Burgoyne.

The following curious epitaph is on a tombstone in the Low-moor church yard, near Bradford:—

“In Memory of Christopher Barlow, blacksmith, of Raw Nook, who died October 9th, 1824, aged 56 years.”

“My stithy and my hammer I reclined;

My bellows, too, have lost their wind;

My fire's extinguished, and my forge decay'd,

And in the silent dust my vice is laid:

My coal is spent, my stock of iron's gone,

My last nail driven, and my work is done.”



1824.

An instance of undaunted and successful courage occurred in Ardsley, in the year 1824, so truly extraordinary that it deserves distinct record in the "Annals." Mr. John Boyle, a gentleman upwards of eighty years of age, and who had been reduced to extreme debility by a long illness, lived with his wife and a servant girl in a lonely house and in a bad neighbourhood. Since it was known that he had lately received his rents, six or seven ruffians determined to rob the house, and from the desperate depravity of their characters, there is little doubt that they would not have hesitated to add murder to robbery. About one o'clock in the morning of the 25th of July, they arrived at Mr. Boyle's residence, and by the noise they made in entering, awoke Elizabeth Balmforth, the servant girl, who with wonderful presence of mind first secured a door which opened upon the landing of the better rooms, and then alarmed her master. The courageous old man armed himself with a carbine which had not been fired for two years, and a double barrellled pistol which he put into his pocket, and, followed by his wife, who carried a drawn sword, proceeded down the principal staircase to attack the robbers. Perceiving a man by the kitchen door he fired his carbine, which mortally wounded the robber, and the remaining miscreants, with the cowardice which always accompanies guilt, immediately took to their heels. The wounded robber crawled from the house, and was perceived at day break in the agonies of death. He proved to be a Mr. John Scott, an inhabitant of Morley, and maintained to the last his fidelity to his comrades, making no confession whatever. Two of them were, however, soon afterwards apprehended and sentenced to die—they were not executed, but were transported for life.

The Leeds Oil Gas Company was established in January, this year, and in a short time obtained a capital of £20,000, raised in £10 shares; but after an unsuccessful career of about nine years, the company was dissolved by act of parliament. The Leeds new gas company purchased the apparatus, &c., for £5,300.——York was first lighted with gas on March 22nd, this year, under an act passed in 1823.——On the 26th of April, this year, was laid the first stone of Brunswick chapel, Brunswick-street, Camp-road, Leeds. It is a large and handsome stone edifice, one end of which is semi-circular. A burial ground surrounds the chapel, and the



1824.

whole is enclosed by a wall surmounted by iron palisading. The spacious interior has a gallery extending all round the building, and 2,500 persons can be accommodated with sittings. On the walls are four beautiful monumental tablets in marble. The pulpit is a very handsome one, of polished spanish mahogany; and the noble organ which stands in the gallery immediately behind, has an elegant case of the same wood richly carved, with gilt pipes in front and sides, as well as a screen for the orchestra, resembling the case, on a smaller scale. The whole when viewed from the ground floor, has an imposing effect, and harmonizes well with the pulpit. The organ was built in 1827, by the late Mr. Joseph Booth, of Wakefield, but has within the last few years been greatly enlarged by his son, Mr. F. Booth; it is considered one of the sweetest-toned instruments in the county, and is fortunately in the hands of a master of his profession, Mr. Edward Booth, organist, of Leeds. It cost £1,821, for the principal part of which amount, the trustees were indebted to the munificent generosity of William Smith, Esq., of Gledhow. The organ was opened by the late Samuel Wesley, father of Dr. S. S. Wesley, late of Leeds. The stationed ministers are the Revs. T. Vasey, J. D. Brocklehurst, and G. W. Olver, B.A.

On April 11th, Isaac Crowther's woollen mill, at Morley, was burnt down.—On April 14th, Mr. Green ascended in his balloon from the Halifax Piece Hall, and alighted near Hornby castle, the seat of the duke of Leeds, sixty-three miles from the place of his ascent.

"The Leeds Patriot" was commenced in April, this year, by Messrs. Fothergill and Thompson, and was published on the Saturday for some time afterwards; the day of publication was then changed to Tuesday—subsequently it appeared again on the Saturday, and in December, 1828, became the property of Mr. John Foster.

The institution of the Leeds or Haigh park races on the 23rd of June, this year, was an unfortunate event for the town: cherishing a spirit of gambling, exercising an injurious influence upon public morals, and interrupting the employment and consequently diminishing the comfort of many who derive their daily bread from the produce of their hands. The race course, which is admirably adapted for the purpose, is situated about three miles south from the town, on the new road to Pontefract; it was provided with a grand stand and the usual appendages of such a

1824.

place, with accommodation for horses and their riders. At first these races were held annually in June, but in 1830 it was determined that for the future they should take place in August. The most extraordinary feats ever performed in the race ground were achieved by captain Polhill, of the first dragoon guards, then stationed in Leeds barracks. On November 9th, 1826, this officer, for a wager, rode ninety-five miles in four hours and seventeen minutes, and on the 17th of April following, the same officer on the same ground walked fifty miles, drove fifty miles, and rode fifty miles, in the short space of nineteen hours and five minutes, and was afterwards drawn by the populace to the barracks in his carriage.

In June, a child was stolen from William Rodgers and wife, of Hunslet, near Leeds, by Charlotte Peck, alias Shaw, a woman who had been accustomed to vagrant habits, but who for a short time had taken lodgings in Hunslet, but subsequently went into the service of Mrs. Urquhart, in whose name she committed this cruel fraud, under pretence that Mrs. Urquhart was desirous of seeing the child. As soon as the little boy was missed by its distressed parents, suspicion fell upon the woman, who had often been seen noticing the child in the street, and who had not been at her employer's since the hour when the child disappeared. The feelings of the parents may be better imagined than described; for three months they were doomed to the most distressing suspense, though week after week the father was running over the country in quest of his lost boy, then only four years old, and the newspapers in all parts of the kingdom reported his sufferings, and described the person and dress of the kidnapper, which active publicity furnished him ever and anon with a gleam of hope, and kept him in chase of the run-a-way, whose movements were so rapid, that during three months she travelled with the child upwards of 1,500 miles in England, Scotland, and France, whither the father followed her to Calais, but found she had left before his arrival, a painful disappointment which he several times experienced. At length she was taken at Swansea, in Wales; the child was restored to its parents, but died soon after, and the criminal was sentenced to be transported for seven years. She, however, died in York castle, supposed of grief.

Died on July 7th, aged 81, Sir George Wood, who, during a great part of his life sat as judge in the

1824.

Northern circuit, and was one of the barons of the exchequer. He was born at Barnsley, where he was articled to Mr. West, an attorney, who often declared that "George Wood would become a judge." So soon did he indicate that sound judgment in which he excelled on the bench, though he had not much oratorical power, and retained the characteristic bluntness of a Yorkshireman. He retired from office in 1823, and died worth £300,000.—On July 16th, Messrs. Brancker, Brown, and Co.'s woollen manufactory, in Mill Garth, Leeds, was destroyed by fire; but the warehouse was providentially saved.—On July 28th, was laid the first stone of the concert room, at York.

Sept. 2nd. The inhabitants on the banks of the river Aire were greatly alarmed by the disruption of a bog at Crow-hill, above Haworth, in a wild part of the county of York, adjoining to Lancashire, which kept the water of the river Aire in such a turbid state, that for some time it could not be used, either for culinary or manufacturing purposes. The event was thus described in the Leeds Mercury as follows:—Crow hill, the scene of this phenomenon, is about nine miles from Keighley, and six from Colne, at an elevation of about 1,000 feet above the former place. The top of the moor, which is nearly level, is covered with peat and other accumulations of decayed vegetables of a less firm texture; the whole appeared saturated with water, and in most places trembled under the tread of the foot. The superfluous water at the east end of the moor drained into small rivulets at the bottom of a deep glen or gill, down a precipitous range of rocks, which presented the appearance of a gigantic staircase. This rivulet passes down the valley to Keighley, and enters the Aire, near Stockbridge, about a mile below that town. At the distance of about 500 yards from the top of the glen, the principal discharge seems to have taken place: here a very large area of about 1,200 yards in circumference, is excavated to the depth of from four to six yards; and at a short distance from this chasm there is a similar excavation, but much less in extent. These concavities have been emptied, not only of their water, but also of their solid contents. A channel about twelve yards in width, and seven or eight in depth, has been formed quite to the mouth of the gill, down which a most amazing quantity of water was precipitated, with a violence and noise of which it is difficult to form an adequate conception, and which was heard to a consider-

1824.

able distance. Stones of an immense size and weight were hurried by the torrent more than a mile. It is impossible to form any computation of the quantity of earthy matter which has been carried down into the valley; but that it is enormous is evident from the vast quantities deposited by the torrent in every part of its course.

This destructive torrent was confined within narrow bounds by the high glen through which it passed, until it reached the hamlet of Pondens, where it expanded oversome corn fields covering them to the depth of several feet; it also filled up the mill-pond, choking up the water course, and thereby putting an entire stop to the works. A stone bridge was also nearly swept away at this place, and several others in its course were materially damaged; and it is remarkable that it was not fatal to life in a single instance. The torrent was seen coming down the glen before it reached the hamlet, by a person who gave the alarm, and thereby saved the lives of several children, who would otherwise have been swept away. The torrent at this time presented a breast of seven feet high. The track and extent of this inundation of mud may be accurately traced all the way from the summit of the hill to the confluence of the rivulet with the Aire, by the black deposit which it has left on its banks. The first bursting of the bog took place at six o'clock in the evening of Thursday, the 2nd instant, and another very considerable discharge occurred on the following day, about eight in the morning, and it is highly probable that other extensive portions of the bog will, from time to time hereafter, be discharged into the Aire in a similar manner. No human being was on the spot to witness the commencement of this awful phenomenon and of course, we cannot arrive at an absolute degree of certainty as to its cause; the most probable one, is the bursting of a water-spout. The suddenness and violence of the disruption strongly favours this supposition. It would evidently require a power acting with a great degree of momentum to move and break in pieces the large and almost solid masses of peat and turf which were forced down the hill, to say nothing of the detached rocks which were moved. The state of the atmosphere about the time when the disruption took place, also renders this solution highly probable, the air being fully charged with electric matter." "At the time of the irruption," says Mr. Bronté, "the clouds were copper coloured, gloomy, and lowering; the atmosphere was strongly electrified, and unusually close." These appear-

ances, as they indicated, were followed by a severe thunder storm, during which it is more than probable that some heavily loaded cloud poured its contents upon the spot. We may add, in support of this hypothesis, that more water seems to have been sent down the glen than could have been supplied by the contents of the two bogs which have been excavated. But, perhaps, a still more important inquiry is, what can be done to prevent a recurrence of similar eruptions? This is rather a difficult question; there is, however, no doubt but the drainage of the moss would remove the danger, as no instance exists of either the bursting or floating away of a drained bog. Probably the channels now made, should they remain open, will give the requisite stability to the peaty soil."

Sept. 6th. St. Peter's church, at Stanley, near Wakefield, was consecrated by the archbishop of York.—The new market, at Bradford, was opened on the 16th of September, this year.—September 22nd, was laid the first stone of St. John's church, at Roundhay, which was founded and endowed by Stephen Nicholson, Esq., in whom and his heirs the patronage is vested for ever by a special act of parliament, obtained in the 5th of George IV.

On the 5th of November, Mr. Moses Atkinson's extensive flax mill, at the Bank, in Leeds, was destroyed by fire: damage £10,000.—On the 26th of November, was laid by Lepton Dobson, Esq., the first stone of the Leeds Central Market, Duncan-street. This handsome covered market was erected from the designs of F. Goodwin, Esq., of London, and was opened in 1827. The building is of stone. The front exhibits a striking elevation of Grecian architecture, consisting of a central division and lateral wings. The columns are of the Ionic order, and the words "Central Market" are inscribed on the architrave. The interior is very spacious, the centre being divided into three walks, with stalls. A gallery is carried round three sides of the building, and was for many years fitted with stalls, and used for the sale of hardware, fancy articles, &c.; but has been occupied as a shoe market since the removal of the stalls from Briggate. Around the exterior of the edifice, are a number of shops, chiefly occupied by provision dealers. The want of success of this valuable market was, we believe, mainly attributable to the bad regulations and want of cleanliness; but considerable improvements have been effected. The building cost £35,000, including the ground. The market opens at 8 a.m., and closes at 8 p.m.; excepting between Easter and

1824.

Whitsuntide, and three weeks before Christmas, when it is open till 9 p.m., and every Saturday till 11 o'clock, p.m.

December 21st. The river Aire again overflowed and inundated the lower streets of Leeds, and washed away fifty yards of the embankment wall in Water-lane, the toll-bar and wooden house at Waterloo ford, and Redcote bridge, Kirkstall.—Dec. 27th. The wife of Charles Hardy, of Bradley mills, was safely delivered of three fine girls, who were baptized Faith, Hope, and Charity.

The Leeds and Yorkshire Fire and Life Insurance Company was established this year, with a capital of £1,000,000. The site for their recently erected and elegant stone edifice is well chosen, at the junction of Commercial-street and Albion-street. The exterior presents a beautiful and striking elevation in the Italian style, having an enriched rusticated ground story, supporting a principal story, with a suite of windows all round, parted by Corinthian columns, and surmounted by an ornamental entablature, over which is another story carrying the building to an imposing height. Its cost was about £6,000. W. B. Gingell, Esq., of Bristol, architect. W. Lister, Esq., is managing director, and B. F. Scott, Esq., secretary. The company's engine is kept in the Rose and Crown yard.

About the same time was established in the city of York, the Yorkshire Insurance Company, with a capital of £500,000, and like that at Leeds, "for the insurance against fire, and on lives and survivorships; endowments of children; and for the purchase and sale of revisions and annuities."—This year the duke of Devonshire sold the town of Wetherby in 174 lots.—There was, this year, a reduction of the duties on coals and rum, and a repeal of the duties on law proceedings. An important enactment of this session was one which established a uniformity of weights and measures.—A committee of the House of Commons, with Mr. Hume as chairman, recommended (and which was soon made law) a repeal of the laws which prohibited the emigration of artizans. The House of Commons also reduced the duties on raw silk to 3d. per lb: from 5s. 7½d. on all that did not come from Bengal, and 4s. on all that did. The duties on thrown silk were reduced from 14s. 8d. to 7s. 6d. per lb.

The importation of foreign silks was still prohibited up to July, 1826, when they were to be admitted at an *ad valorem* duty of 30 per cent. The case of the woollen manufacture, which received a similar boon this year, was somewhat different from that of silk. No duty was laid

1824.-1825.

on wool till 1803, and then it amounted to little more than  $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per lb. The duty never exceeded 1d. per lb. till 1819, when Mr. Vansittart most imprudently increased it to 6d. per lb. Mr. Huskinson introduced a measure reverting to the former plan: Foreign wool imported for English consumption of the value of 1s. per lb. and upwards was to pay a duty of 1d. per lb; and wool of an inferior quality was to pay  $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per lb. English wool growers were now permitted to export wool on payment of a duty of 1d. per lb.—In the summer of this year, there was discovered in a quarry at Morley, in a solid block of stone, and at a depth of twenty-five feet from the surface of the earth, eight or ten fossil nuts or acorns. The nuts were “ovate” and “angular,” which proves them to have been oak acorns; besides which, they did not seem to have been fixed in a calix or cup, but like stone fruit to have hung suspended by a stalk. In the same block of stone were also fossil remains of the cane or reed, which is now a native of the Indies; and what is more curious, a piece of iron of the wedge form, two or three inches long.

1825. On the 12th of January, twenty-five men and boys were killed by an explosion of fire damp, in the Gosforth coal mine, at Middleton, near Leeds.

Feb. 3rd. The septennial festival in honour of Bishop Blaize, was celebrated at Bradford with unusual splendour. As it appears probable that the honours then paid to the wool-combers' Saint will be the last of the kind rendered here, it will be interesting to give an account of the ceremony. The weather being very fine, at an early hour in the morning the surrounding towns and villages began to pour in their population. About eight o'clock in the morning, the persons intending to form part of the procession began to assemble in Westgate; and shortly before ten o'clock, under the superintendence of Matthew Thompson, Esq., were formed in the following order:—

Herald, bearing a flag.—Twenty-four woolstaplers on horseback, each horse caparisoned with a fleece.—Thirty-eight worsted spinners and manufacturers on horseback, in white stuff waistcoats, with each a sliver of wool over his shoulder and a white stuff sash: the horses' necks covered with nets made of thick yarn.—Six merchants on horseback, with coloured sashes.—Three guards.—Masters' colours.—Three Guards.—Fifty-six apprentices and masters' sons on horseback, with ornamented caps, scarlet coloured coats, white stuff waistcoats, and blue pantaloons.—Bradford and Keighley bands.—Macebearer, on foot.—Six guards.—King.—Queen.—Six guards.—Guards.—Jason.—Princess Medea.—Guards.—Bishop's chaplain.—BISHOP BLAISE.



1825.

—Shepherd and shepherdess.—Shepherd swains.—One hundred and sixty woolsorters on horseback, with ornamented caps and various coloured slivers.—Thirty comb makers.—Charcoal burners —Combers' colours.—Band.—Four hundred and seventy wool-combers, with wool wigs, &c —Band.—Forty dyers, with red cockades, blue aprons, and crossed slivers of red and blue.

The procession started about ten o'clock, and proceeded through the principal streets and roads of the town; and did not disperse till about five o'clock. The whole cavalcade reached upwards of half a mile. Several splendid and well-painted flags were displayed. The person who figured as the "King" in the procession, was an old man named William Clough, from Darlington, who had sustained the part on four previous occasions. Jason was personated by a John Smith,—the fair Medea rode by his side. Bishop Blaize was represented with becoming gravity by another John Smith, who had, too, borne the pastoral crook on several other commemorations. His chaplain was James Beetham.

The ornaments of the spinners and manufacturers had a neat and even elegant appearance, from the delicate and glossy whiteness of the finely-combed wool which they wore. The apprentices and masters' sons, however, formed the most showy part of the procession; their caps being richly ornamented with ostrich feathers, flowers, and knots of various coloured yarn; and their stuff garments formed of the gayest colours. Some of these dresses were very costly, from the profusion of their decorations. The shepherd, shepherdess, and swains were attired in bright green. The wool-sorters, from their number, and the height of their plumes of feathers, which were mostly of different colours, formed in the shape of a *fleur-de-lis*, had a dashing appearance. The comb-makers carried before them the instruments here so much celebrated, raised on standards, together with golden fleeces, rams' heads with gilded horns, and other emblems. The wool-combers were neatly dressed, and looked mighty wise in their odd-fashioned and full flowing wigs of combed wool—and the garb of the dyers was quite professional.

Sunday, April 3rd, Abram Rhodes and Co.'s extensive woollen mill, at Woodhouse carr, near Leeds was partly destroyed by fire, which commenced in the third story, and consumed all the machinery, &c., in that and on the two next floors above and below; but the two lower stories were saved.—— April 26th. As the workmen

1825.

were employed at the height of fifty-one feet, in fixing the roof of the new Independent chapel, at Back-green, Huddersfield, a plank of unusual length, without any support in the centre, suddenly broke, and precipitated seventeen men into the body of the chapel, where two were killed on the spot, two more died soon after, and the rest were dreadfully hurt.——March 16th, was laid the first stone of the Independent chapel, at Gomersal.——May 24th. The vicar of Dewsbury laid the first stone of a new church at Earls Heaton.——The demolition of the Middle row, at Leeds, was completed May 30th, and Briggate, in which the ancient pile stood, was rendered one of the finest provincial streets in the kingdom.——June 9th. Mr. Green, sen., made his 32nd ascent from the coloured Cloth Hall yard, Leeds, in his beautiful balloon, which descended at Askham-Richard, eighteen miles from Leeds. Mr. Green was accompanied in this ascent by Miss Stocks, the young lady who ascended with Mr. Harris, from London, and fell with him from a great elevation, in consequence of the sudden escape of gas.——July 6th. Was opened, the new turnpike road from Leeds to Birstal, by way of Wellington bridge; it is fifty feet wide, and avoids all difficult ascents; the committee and many other gentlemen perambulated the whole line.——In April, this year, a Mechanics' institute was established at Huddersfield.

This year was the most disastrous to Bradford in its events of any in modern times. From the great pomp with which the Bishop Blaize festival was celebrated in February, it seems that the trade here was then very prosperous. The wool-combers and stuff-weavers of Bradford and the surrounding villages had long been discontented with their wages, (though they were then very high), and, after unsuccessfully endeavouring to obtain an advance, "turned out" of their work. On the 14th of June this famous "strike" commenced. The workmen, to the number of nearly 20,000, associated themselves in the name of the Bradford union, under the leadership of a wool-comber named John Tester. Their demands were perseveringly opposed by the masters; and, as a consequence, the trade of Bradford was nearly stopped. The unemployed men were supported by subscriptions from the operatives in various parts of the kingdom; the sums raised for the purpose were immense, and enabled the malcontents to strive with the masters for twenty-three weeks, when the money began to fail, and Tester absconding with part of the funds, on the 7th of November the

1825

union was dissolved; but 1,200 of the wool-combers and weavers, and 1,000 of the children could not find employment even at the old prices.

July 7th, were opened the new Baths, at Slaithwaite, where some years before a spa was discovered, rising in the channel of the river, from which it has been separated.

About the same time the spa at Lockwood, near Huddersfield, was first brought into notice.

July. A large block of grit stone, with the indention of a palm leaf near the base, and exhibiting other symptoms of organic remains, was brought from the quarry at Bramley fall, to the Central market, where the workmen prepared it for building. Large masses of petrified timber are so common in this neighbourhood, as scarcely to produce any surprise in the mind of the geologist.

On the 30th June, the merchants and manufacturers of Saddleworth gave a public dinner, with a silver cup of fifty guineas, to William Hirst, of Leeds, as a testimony of the high sense they entertain of his abilities and perseverance as a woollen manufacturer; and of their esteem for his frankness and liberality in communicating his improvements to the public."——On the 30th of July, one of the projecting wings of Armley mills, belonging to Messrs. Gott and Sons, was destroyed by fire: the damage was estimated at £5,000.——In August, much interest was excited in the neighbourhood of Huddersfield, by the discovery of some diluvian remains, with impressions in the sand stone of animals and plants; a number of them evidently such as could only have existed in tropical climates.——Died on the 25th of October, at his house in Portman-square, London, Walter Fawkes, Esq., of Farnley hall, near Otley.——Public credit in Yorkshire received a distressing shock on December 9th, by the stoppage and bankruptcy of Messrs. Wentworth, Chaloner, and Rishworths; the bankers of London, Wakefield, Bradford, and York.

In September, this year, a railway was opened which led from the mines near Darlington to the wharfs on the Tees, at Stockton—the whole distance about twenty miles—for the transport of coal. The waggons were drawn by horses, and ten miles an hour was the usual speed. In the following year two of Stephenson's locomotives were employed on the line in addition to the horses. Stephenson's assertion, during an examination before a committee of the House of Commons, on the subject of railways, that it would not be difficult to make a locomotive travel

1825.-1826.

fifteen or twenty miles an hour, provoked one of the members to reply, that the engineer could only be fit for a lunatic asylum.

1826. In January, the new churches at Leeds, Woodhouse, and Roundhay were consecrated by the archbishop. Quarry-hill church, Leeds, was consecrated Oct. 12th.

On January 19th, about four o'clock in the afternoon, Mr. George Hammond's flax mill, at the Bank, in Leeds, took fire, and the flames spread with such rapidity, that many of the workmen were severely scorched, and about ten persons in the attic had no means of escape, except passing through the roof, and thence into an adjoining mill; the building was reduced to a ruin, and the loss of machinery and goods amounted to £3,000.

The years 1824, 1825, and 1826, will ever be memorable for the creation of Joint Stock Companies, by which immense loss was sustained by persons in all parts of the kingdom. There was a perfect rage to take shares in companies started for ever conceivable object—such as baking, washing, baths, life assurance, brewing, coal portage, wool growing, &c. There was such a rage for steam navigation, canals, and railroads, that in the session of 1825, 438 petitions for private bills were presented, and 286 private acts were passed. The acknowledgment of the independence of some of the South American states, turned the tide of speculation in that direction. Companies were formed to obtain gold and silver from the mountain tops and clefts, where there were no workmen or tools to do the work, no fuel for the fires, and no road or carriages to bring away the produce. There was to be so much gold and silver, that after the national debt had been paid off, the value of money in England and all Europe would be essentially changed. Gems and pearls were to abound to such a degree, that the jewels of ancient families were soon to be shamed. People who declined stock exchange speculation, aimed at growing rich by trading to the land of gold. It is said that more Manchester goods arrived at Rio Janeiro, than had been before required for twenty years, and merchandise was left exposed on the beach till the over-crowded warehouses could afford room for its storage.

Then came the collapse—cotton, wine, silk, and other foreign products came into the market in such vast quantities, that prices fell incessantly. Then followed a panic unequalled in history for the extent of ruin it produced, the intensity of its distress, and the universality of its alarm. Commercial houses of long standing failed,

1826.

that were supposed to be immensely rich. The bank of England narrowed its discounts. On the 5th of December, 1825, the banking-house of Sir Peter Pole and Co., stopped; and had accounts with forty-four country banks. The news of this failure spread, and the funds went down immediately—and faster still next day, when the bank of Williams and Co. stopped. From this time the crash went on without intermission, till in five or six weeks from sixty to seventy banks had stopped payment. Between October 1825 and February 1826, fifty-nine commissions of bankruptcy were issued against English country banks; and four times the number of private compositions are said to have taken place by banks during the same period. On the stoppage of Pole's bank, an issue was made of one and two pound bank notes for country circulation; and the Mint was set to work to coin sovereigns as fast as the machinery would go. For about a week the coinage amounted to 150,000 sovereigns per day. While merchants and manufacturers were unable to meet pecuniary obligations, their workmen were without employment, and distress reached every class of the community. He was indeed a lucky man that was not affected by this panic. After the panic, the fearful sufferings of the poorer classes led them into riotous proceedings. The rioters of Lancashire commenced the destruction of power-looms, supposed to be the cause of their distress. In one day every power-loom in Blackburn, and within six miles of it was destroyed. In less than a week a thousand power-looms were destroyed. The mob went from town to town in thousands, armed with table knives made into spikes, and sledge hammers, and did a great amount of mischief.

The Thames tunnel was commenced this year by Mr. Brunel, the engineer. The work was continued for two years with various disasters, but with an indomitable perseverance on the part of the engineer. Then the directors became discouraged, the funds were exhausted, and the tunnel was shut up for seven years. It was afterwards prosecuted to completion.

January 5th. As some workmen were removing an ancient wall, at Garforth, near Leeds, they found a leathern purse, containing forty-one pieces of coin, of the reigns of Elizabeth, James I., and Charles I., which are supposed to have been deposited there in the time of the civil wars.

Died this year, at Wilsden, near Bradford, in the 93rd year of her age, Mrs. Hannah Jowett, who, while all the

family were in attendance at public worship, had knelt down near the fire, in the act of private devotion, when her clothes caught fire, and she was burnt in so dreadful a manner as to occasion her death two days after the catastrophe. Nearly all the female children of the parish for two generations, had been indebted to the pious dame Jowett for their early instruction.

The density of the atmosphere in London, on Monday, January 16th, was so great that carriages in many places were absolutely immoveable, simply by the horses not being able to see the ground, while the darkness was so great that no part of St. Paul's cathedral could be seen from the western railing; Cheapside and the city generally presented a scene of real desolation, and all the manufactories and workshops were obliged to use their full complement of night lights.——Thomas Wade left money in 1530 for the repair of certain roads, out of which fund £1,000 was obtained this year and paid towards the opening of Bond-street from Albion-street to the infirmary.

The establishment of an university at Leeds was recommended by Mr. Marshall.——Jan. 15th. At the parish church, Calverley, were buried, James Brayshaw, of Idle, cloth maker, aged 87, and Martha, his wife, who had been married and lived together sixty-six years, and had a family of nine children, fifty-nine grand-children, fifty-five great grand-children, and three great great grand-children, in all 126.

During the intensity of the frost that generally prevailed in England, there was a wren's nest built under the eaves of a thatched cottage, at Beighton, near Sheffield, containing five young ones, hatched at Christmas, which were regularly fed by the parent bird, from crumbs placed within its reach.——An apple tree in the same neighbourhood exhibited five or six apples in a growing state.

In January, a box was sent from Leeds to Newcastle, directed to a Mr. Simpson, of Edinburgh, and was found to contain the corpse of a Mr. Daniel, who had been interred in St. John's church yard, Leeds, on the 1st of January, and on searching the grave, the coffin was found empty. Mr. Daniel's son immediately went to Newcastle, where he recognised the body of his deceased parent, Thomas Daniel, by various well-known marks imprinted upon it with gunpowder. In the mean time, George Cox, the son of a broker and box maker of Leeds, was recognised by the clerk of the telegraph coach-office, as the man who delivered the package. He was consequently apprehended, and though he pleaded that a

1826.

stranger Jew, who had lodged a short time at his father's, had employed him to make the box, and that he knew not its contents, though he took it to the coach-office, he was found guilty of body stealing at the sessions, and sentenced to six months' imprisonment in York castle.

In February, a package similar to the above was sent from Leeds by coach, directed to Mr. Jackson, of Edinburgh, but it was also opened at Newcastle, and found to contain the body of a man, about sixty years of age.

Feb. Sir Sandford Graham gave the munificent sum of £500 towards the erection of a church at Kirkstall, near Leeds.—On February 16th, died Lindley Murray, who wrote and published so many excellent elementary and other works, principally for the use of schools. He expired in his 81st year, at Holdgate, near York, where he had lived many years. He was the son of a miller, and was born at Swetara, near Lancaster, in Pennsylvania, in the United States of America, which he left in 1784, and settled in England.—Feb 20th. Died, aged 61 years, Mr. Matthew Murray, engineer, of Leeds, whose improvements in the steam-engine flax spinning, and other machinery, will be a lasting testimony of his skill.

In the course of the week previous to the 11th of March, a pig, fed at Parlington, near Aberford, was slaughtered in the shambles, at Leeds, which weighed 46 stones 6 lbs., long weight.

In March, the body of Martha Oddy, 15 years of age, the daughter of a clothier, was stolen out of its grave in Armley church yard, and was also despatched to Edinburgh, but after a long, persevering, and painful chase, was regained by the distressed parents, brought back, and re-interred in its original grave. A few days after the re-interment, three men were apprehended on suspicion of having committed this daring offence, and one of them, Michael Armstrong, was sentenced at the Leeds sessions to six months' imprisonment in York castle.

In March, this year, the long pending Wakefield Soke Cause, which commenced in 1820, was terminated at York, before Judge Bayley, and a special jury, who by their verdict established the custom of the soke, in favour of the plaintiffs, Sir Edward Dodsworth, bart., Godfrey Wentworth Wentworth, Esq., Sir William Pilkington, bart., and Jose Luis Fernandez, the miller. The defendants were William Ingham, Charles Adams, and Joseph Smith, Esqrs., of Ossett. The places which were included



1826.

in the soke by the plaintiffs were Horbury, Ossett-cum-Gawthorpe, Alverthorpe-cum-Thornes, Wakefield, Stanley-cum-Wrenthorp, Sandal, Criggleston, and New-miller dam, the inhabitants of which places were compelled to grind their corn, whether for their own consumption or as an article of trade, at the soke mills. The soke has since been purchased by the inhabitants of Wakefield, for which rates have been laid.

April. Sarah Baker, of Somerton, Oxfordshire, widow, died this month, aged 106 years. She officiated for many years as parish clerk, and when 99 years of age reaped in the fields for a whole day.——On levelling a piece of ground near Fishergate bar, for the new cattle market, at York, many relics of mortality were exposed, it having been formerly the site of All Saint's church, an ancient rectory, given by William Rufus to the abbess and convent of Whitby, on condition that the monks there should pray for him and his heirs. The expense of the land, pens, and buildings of this new and commodious market-place, was £8,400. The tolls were soon after let for £130 per annum.

May 1st. In the afternoon of this day, a meeting of unemployed workmen took place on Fairweather green, near Bradford. The number of persons assembled was about 250, who, after consulting together for some time, proceeded at five o'clock in the afternoon, to the mill of Messrs. Horsfall, situate at North Wing, near the old church, Bradford, which contained a number of power-looms for weaving stuffs, and commenced an attack upon the mill, but without doing any mischief, except breaking the windows. They then proceeded to Bradford moor, about a mile on the Leeds road, where they were joined by about 200 more, and, with this reinforcement, they returned to the mill, and made a second attack between eight and nine o'clock; but the riot act being read, the mob after some time separated. This was on Monday, and all remained quiet until Wednesday, when another meeting was held on Fairweather green, far more numerous than that on Monday, and, after forming in several groups till about twenty minutes past three, they again moved in a body to Messrs. Horsfall's mill, where they arrived a little before four o'clock. They began throwing stones as before; the squares which were broken on Monday, about 240 in number, had since been glazed. They continued the attack half an hour, when they had completely demolished three of the windows, staunchcons, frames, and everything connected with them. But on Tuesday, iron bars had been fixed in front of the low win-

1826.

dows, and as the doors were secured by three inch planks, it was next to impossible to force an entrance. At half-past four, colonel Plumbe Tempest, accompanied by a number of special constables, stood on the ground adjoining the mill, and read the riot act. The mob still showed no disposition to disperse, but continued throwing stones. All other efforts hitherto adopted proving unavailing, and the mob having fired a pistol into the mill, the persons who were defending it, amounting to about forty, fired from twenty to thirty shots upon the mob, by which two persons were killed, viz., Jonas Barstow, of Queen's head, aged 18 years, and Edward Fearnley, of Bradford, a boy 13 years old; and a considerable number were wounded. The mob soon after dispersed. Two of the rioters were sent to York castle.

The first stone of the Leeds Commercial Buildings was laid May 18th, this year, by Lepton Dobson, Esq. This noble and elegant structure is situated at the junction of Park-row, called Quebec, and the end of Boar-lane, called West-bar, and was opened October 12th 1829: the site is most eligible, fronting the west entrance into the town. The building stands perfectly isolated, being surrounded by streets, excepting the back, which overlooks the burial ground of Mill-hill chapel. The style of architecture is Grecian—the plan a parallelogram, with the south-western corner rounded off, and formed into a spacious and elegant circular portico. The building presents six different sides, or facades, of unequal length; the one towards Park-row has two, and that towards West-bar four recessed fluted columns. The row of columns of the portico facade or principal entrance, adjoins and connects the two preceding, but recedes a little. There are five openings, and as many flights of steps, on which stand four columns, with appropriate autæ supporting the sweep of the circular entablature, which is surmounted in the centre by a clock, and in the rear of it is an elevated substruction. The columns of the portico, and the two facades named, are fluted and upwards of four feet in diameter at the base of the shafts, and nearly forty feet in height, from the top of the basement on which they stand, to the saffet of the architrave of the entablature which is supported by them. Over the entablature, which completely environs the building, an attic parapet wall, with suitable pilasters, is erected. This lofty pile of buildings is overtopped by a circular tower, with a finial ornament of scrolls and honeysuckles, surmounted by a cornice, which, when viewed from a distance,

1826.

has an imposing effect. The interior is in perfect keeping with the exterior. The first apartment is the vestibule, beyond which, and separated from it by a screen of Ionic columns, is the saloon of the grand staircase, an entire circle, thirty four feet six inches in diameter, and above sixty feet to the top of the dome. At the bottom of the staircase, on each side, are two lofty ornamental candelabra, from which a rich palisading, surmounted by a broad mahogany hand-rail, fences the ends of the steps and landings. The stairs branch right and left to the top of a broad landing, communicating with another saloon, and separated by a screen of Corinthian columns. The upper part of the staircase is decorated with twenty Corinthian columns, recessed, supporting an enriched entablature of the same order, and the panelled dome. A cupola crowns the dome, glazed with stained glass. In the intercolumniations on the wall are niches, each surmounted by a wreath. This staircase has a grand effect.

On the ground floor, to the right of the entrance, is the news, or reading-room. It is sixty-five feet long, thirty-three feet six inches wide, and twenty-five feet high, and is divided longitudinally into three aisles, by two rows of twelve Corinthian columns. The walls have a similar number of corresponding pilasters and niches; windows, doors, or fire-places, are placed in the intercolumniations, and the ceiling is tastefully ornamented. The room immediately over the news-room is of precisely similar dimensions, but undivided by rows of columns. The walls are decorated with coupled *autæ*, which supports a rich entablature, and a beautiful ceiling. Upon the opposite side of the entrance is another large room, the walls decorated with pillars, which support an entablature, and a light arched ceiling, divided into compartments, and over this room is a similar one. There is attached to the news-room, a room for the superintendent, and a committee-room. There are other rooms on the opposite side fitted up with great taste. The cellars form two extensive ranges of wine vaults. The whole building covers an area of 1,324 square yards, and cost, with the ground, near £34,500. The architect was John Clark, Esq., of Edinburgh. The upper story is occupied by the Leeds District Court of Bankruptcy; the other as offices, chiefly by brokers and professional men. The subscription to the news-room is 25s. per annum, and the subscriber has the liberty of introducing a stranger. Mr. Thomas Duncan is honorary secretary of the news-room.

1826.

The foundation stone of the Bradford Dispensary was laid by the Rev. Henry Heap, vicar, on the 29th of May, in this year.

The first stone of the Leeds Corn Exchange, top of Brig-gate, was laid in a private manner, by Mr. John Cawood, on the 31st May, on the site of an ancient chantry, supposed to have been founded about 1470; that of the west wing on the 4th of January, 1827; and that of the principal wing was laid with great ceremony on the 27th of August, in the same year. The structure is of stone. The lower story of the front is rusticated; and above rise two Ionic columns, supporting an entablature and pediment. Between the columns is a niche, in which is placed a well-executed marble statue of queen Anne, by Carpenter, of London. Above the statue is a clock, and on the roof is a small cupola for the bell. The front of the building is occupied by shops, with dwelling-houses attached. At the side is a court with a piazza, where the dealers exhibit their samples and conduct their sales. There is likewise an excellent hotel for their accommodation. The market is open from eleven to one o'clock every Tuesday. The building cost £12,500.

On June 21st, for the first time, four knights of the shire were elected at York, as members of parliament for Yorkshire, viz., lord Milton, the hon. Wm. Duncombe, John Marshall, Esq., and Richard Fountayne Wilson, Esq. Five candidates were nominated by the high sheriff, and a poll was confidently expected, but previous to the day of election, Richard Bethell, Esq., withdrew his name. Although there was no contest, the expenses of the four candidates amounted to £150,000.

June 28th. In this year, one of the most severe thunder storms ever remembered, prevailed in the neighbourhood of York. At Poppleton, to the west of that city, hail-stones fell in great abundance, and of unusual dimensions, some measuring five inches in circumference. Several inhabitants had every square of glass in the premises broken, and many of the gardens were laid waste by the storm. Near Tadcaster bar, on the York road, a man, by trade a wire worker, was struck by the lightning, and killed on the spot. During the same storm, a young woman was killed by the electric fluid, whilst working in a hay field near Wetherby. The thermometer was at 85° on Saturday and Sunday in the shade, and in the sun at 124°. Such was the drought and sultriness of the weather, that even in the midst of the hay harvest prayers were offered up in the

1826.

churches and other places of worship for rain. In the month of July the extensive moors in the West-Riding of Yorkshire were in a state of conflagration, which not only spread over a wide extent of surface, consuming the moss, but also burnt to a great depth, igniting the peat underneath. Hawksworth moor was entirely consumed; on Ilkley moor five hundred acres were burnt; Thornton moor was entirely destroyed; Burley moor was on fire. With the destruction of Thornton moor is to be enumerated the loss of all the young plantations, which cost upwards of £2,000. Oaksworth moor was entirely burnt; and Ovenden moor, Holme moss, Burnsall fell, also Hebden, Grassington, Rombalds, and Harden moors were on fire. The flames and smoke together presented an imposing and formidable appearance from high grounds, whence a view of them might be obtained.

John Flaxman, a celebrated sculptor, was born at York, in 1755, and from 1810 till his death, was professor in the royal academy. He received his education partly from his father, who was a sculptor, and partly in the academy. He afterwards visited Italy, where he studied from 1787-94. He composed several works during that period, and among them his celebrated illustrations to Homer, Dante, and Aeschylus, which procured him admission to the academy of Florence and Carrara. His most famous sculptures in England are the monument of lord Mansfield in Westminster abbey, a model of the shield of Achilles, according to Homer, a monument to the poet Collins, and one of Miss Cromwell, in Chichester cathedral, one of the countess Spencer, at Brington, a monumental bas-relief to the memory of his beloved pupil Thomas Hayley, at Eartham, a monument in the Parish church, of Leeds, to the memory of two townsmen viz., captain Walker and captain Beckett, who fell at the battle of Talavera, and a monument to the Baring family at Micheldever. Flaxman died in 1826, six years after his wife, Anne Denham, to whose ecclesiastical taste he was much indebted.

July 12th. J. A. Stuart Wortley, Esq., of Wortley hall, near Peniston, was raised to the peerage by the title of Baron Wharnccliffe, previous to which he had been many years member of parliament for Yorkshire.

On the 18th of September, in this year, at his seat, Gledhow, near Leeds, died Sir John Beckett, Bart. aged 84 years. He was born in 1743, and in 1774 married Mary, third daughter of Dr. Christopher Wilson, bishop of Bristol, grandfather of R. F. Wilson, Esq., and had

1826.-1827.

by her eight sons and three daughters. Sir John was created a baronet in 1813, was twice mayor of Leeds, and as a magistrate for that borough and the West-Riding, he was distinguished for legal knowledge and impartiality: to whose memory and that of lady Beckett, there is a tablet erected in the Leeds parish church, situated on the north-east side of the interior. He was succeeded in his titles by his son, the late right hon. Sir John Beckett, M.P., who married lady Anne Lowther, third daughter of the earl of Lonsdale.

On the night of November 18th, the dyehouse of Messrs. Halliley, Son, and Brook, of Dewsbury, was discovered to be in flames by the watchman, who immediately alarmed William Hanson, one of the company's overlookers, a faithful servant, who had been in their employ thirty-three years. When poor Hanson arrived, and saw the building in flames, his feelings were so deeply affected, that he fell to the ground, and instantly expired. The sequel of this mournful occurrence was still more affecting, for, on the following day, whilst Mr. Wigglesworth, the coroner, was preparing for an inquest on the body of Hanson, he was suddenly seized with a fit of apoplexy, and fell, in the presence of the jury, into the arms of Mr. Brooks, and died in a few hours afterwards.

1827. January 5th, died his royal highness Frederick, duke of York, in his 64th year.—February 3rd, was laid, by Dr. Outhwaite, the first stone of the Bradford Exchange Buildings, opposite the Piece hall.

Feb. 9th, died Dr. Pelham, the bishop of Lincoln, in consequence of a cold caught while attending the duke of York's funeral.—March 4th. A fire broke out in the Flax mill of Mr. Bowes, in the Steander, Leeds: damage about £1,200.—Mar. 17th. In taking down the premises adjoining the Union inn, Ivegate, Bradford, a cannon ball was found in the roof, an eight pounder, supposed to have been shot from one of the field pieces used by the army of the earl of Newcastle, in the siege of 1643.—June 18th. The first stone of the Huddersfield Joint Stock Bank was laid by B. H. Allen, Esq.

June 13th, a large portion of Mr. Hammond's Flax mill, at the Bank, in Leeds, was destroyed by fire.

In July, an uncommon instance of long continued sleep occurred at Woodhouse, near Leeds, where Elizabeth Armitage, spinster, aged 69, suddenly fell into a state of lethargic stupor, in which she continued without

1827.

uttering a word, receiving any food, or showing any signs of life, except breathing, for the space of eight days, when she expired without a struggle. For some months previous, she had been gradually declining, and had taken very little sustenance.——July 4th. For some weeks previous to this time indications of a fire beneath the surface of the ground, had been observed in St. Peter's-square, in Leeds; and on this day, the smoke issued in such quantities as to create considerable alarm in the neighbourhood. An excavation being made to discover the cause of this extraordinary phenomenon, a large body of fire was found, which on the accession of air, burst into a vivid flame. Engines were procured, and a quantity of water thrown into the excavation, which for the time appeared to have extinguished the fire; but on the two following days, the smoke was seen to issue in various places, in very considerable quantities, when a number of excavators were employed to remove the earth, and ascertain the cause, which was discovered to proceed from the ignition of a bed of coal, about two feet in thickness, and only five feet beneath the surface of the ground; a considerable portion of which was reduced to ashes. The ignition of the coal was produced by the furnace of a pipe-maker, which had been erected immediately over it, which was cut out, and the space filled up with gravel, well saturated with water.

July 17th. As Jonathan Wilson was looking at the lion Wallace, in Wombwell's menagerie, then at Leeds, he incautiously placed his hand upon the bottom of the den, when the ferocious animal made a spring at him, and with his claws drew the unfortunate man's arm against the grate, inflicting upon it with his fangs several dreadful wounds, of which he died at the infirmary, by mortification, eight days afterwards.

The large scribbling mill, at Bramley, Hough-end, was burnt down August 1.——On Monday, Aug. 6th, a fortnight sheep and cattle fair was held in the free market, at Leeds; but on October 10th the day was changed to Wednesday.——August 8th, died the right hon. George Canning, first lord of the treasury, and chancellor of the exchequer, which elevated situation he had held only four months. He was born on the 11th of April, 1770, and was buried in Westminster abbey, on Thursday, the 10th of August, this year. He was followed to the grave by the dukes of Clarence



1827.

and Sussex, all the cabinet ministers, marquis Clancricarde, the dukes of Portland, Devonshire, &c., &c. Meetings were held in Leeds, Liverpool, Manchester, Birmingham, &c., to pay tributes of respect to his memory.

August 23rd, the Leeds Branch Bank of England was opened under the management of Thomas Bischoff, Esq. The business of the bank was for several years transacted in the premises situate in Bank-street, now occupied as offices by Mr. Ward, solicitor; but now (1859) carried on in a plain building, 18, Albion-street, which was formerly occupied by Thomas Tennant, Esq. C. E. Mac Carthy, Esq., is agent.——On September 24th, his grace, Arthur, duke of Wellington, the hero of Waterloo, made his public entry into the city of York, preceded by a grand procession of the lord mayor, corporation, and a great number of nobility and gentry. His grace visited many other places in the north of England, and was received with the greatest enthusiasm a grateful people could evince for the eminent military services he had rendered his country.

September 29th, a fire broke out in the extensive Cotton-mill of Messrs. Jonas Brooke and Brothers, at Meltham, near Huddersfield.—Same day, died at the advanced age of 100 years, Mrs. Eve Randall, of Leeds.——October 1st, Mr. Saml. Lumb, sen. of Sowerby, 83 years of age, was married at Halifax, to Mrs. Rachel Heap, to whom he had been previously married about 25 years before. Her first husband had entered into the army, and was at the time of her first marriage with Mr. Lumb, supposed to be dead. In a few years, however, he returned, and demanded his wife, whom he found living with Mr. Lumb, and by whom she had three children. But, after some negociation, Heap agreed to sell her, and Mr. Lumb bought her, and she was actually delivered to him in a halter, at Halifax cross. At her last marriage she was given away at the altar, by Mr. Lumb's grandson. Her first husband had died the April before.——October 6th, the Leeds central market was opened, with great spirit and animation, a band of music enlivened the crowded scene.

The first Leeds quarterly leather fair was held October 17th, in the South market.——October 15th, was laid the first stone of the new church at South Crossland, on ground given by Richard Henry Beaumont, Esq. The structure was finished in July, 1829.——On October 24th, early in the morning, Mr. James Cordingley, a tanner, of Little Horton, near Bradford, was found in his yard nearly dead,

1827.

having been worried by two dogs, which he kept for the protection of his property ; his arm was nearly severed from his body, and his throat dreadfully lacerated, with the windpipe partly torn out ; he expired soon after he was found.——October 27th, two men in attempting to cross the river Aire in a boat, near Castleford, were hurried away by the stream over the middle-dam, when, probably under the influence of panic, they leaped out of the boat, and were both unfortunately drowned.

The Yorkshire Philosophical Society was founded in the year 1822. Having obtained a grant from the crown of three acres of ground on the Manor Shore, comprising the site of the ruins of the abbey (the preservation of these interesting relics of antiquity from further decay being one part of their design,) this society erected its museum in the centre between them and the Roman multangular tower. The foundation stone was laid on the 24th of October, 1827, by the archbishop of York, and the building was opened on February 2nd, 1830. The principal front, which looks towards the river, is nearly 200 feet in length, of pure Doric architecture, and has a central portico, consisting of a pediment, supported on four columns, resting upon a basement of three steps. The internal arrangements consist of an entrance hall, 29 feet by 18 ; a theatre or lecture room, 44 feet by 35 ; a library, 31 feet 9 in. by 18 feet 6 in. ; a council room, and various apartments for the extensive collections of specimens in natural history, antiquities, &c., and also a dwelling-house for the sub-curator, Mr. H. Baines. The main design was furnished by that eminent architect, William Wilkins, Esq., R.A., and the interior portions have been principally constructed under the superintendence of Mr. Sharp and Mr. Pritchett, of York. Since the bequest of £10,000 to this institution by the late Dr. Beckwith, who, during his lifetime was one of its warmest supporters, the botanical garden has undergone the most extensive alterations and improvement, and is now carried down to the promenade on the river side ; a house also for the sub-curator has been erected at the back of the museum, adjoining to, and corresponding with, the architecture of the Manor house, besides various other improvements. The geological collection was under the care of professor Phillips, and is considered one of the best in the kingdom, containing upwards of 10,000 specimens of British organic remains, arranged in the order of their position in the earth. The collection of minerals is classed according to their chemical

1827.

relations, and contains above 2,000 specimens. Those of ornithology and zoology are also very extensive; as is also that of antiquities, in the Hospitium, containing most of the ancient British, Roman, and Anglo-Saxon remains that have been found in York and the neighbourhood. A few yards in front of the Museum stands a small observatory, built in 1833.

The Roman multangular tower is an interesting relic of ancient Eboracum, and is situated on the right-hand side of the garden, immediately on the entrance through the handsome Doric lodge gateway. Respecting this tower, the Rev. C. Wellbeloved, who has long paid great attention to the antiquities of this locality, observes, that "the wall proceeding from it in a south-east direction, is of such a nature that every intelligent antiquary who has inspected it, is of opinion that it was an angle of the wall of the ancient Eboracum. The discoveries made at different times of the foundation of the ancient wall, and of the remains of towers in connexion with this tower, leave no doubt as to the foundation of the wall of Eboracum, at least on one side of the river. English coins of various dates were found in the upper part of this tower; and when the accumulation of rubbish, which had been collecting for ages, was cleared away, many Roman coins were found in the bottom."

The ruins of St. Mary's abbey are situated on the opposite side of the museum to the Roman multangular tower; the principal ruin consisting apparently of the church of this once flourishing monastic establishment; one side of which having eight light gothic arches for windows, with carved capitals, and a small portion of the clustered columns of each end, now only remains. In building the museum, extensive excavations were made, and the foundations of the abbey exposed to view, when they were carefully measured, and ascertained to be 371 feet in length, and 60 feet in breadth. A little to the east of this ruin is a small court, surrounded by a wall built of broken columns, capitals, and stones, bearing marks of fire, and supposed to be part of the former abbey, which perished in the extensive conflagration of 1137. Over the entrance to this court is a mutilated tombstone, with the inscription now scarcely legible:—HIC IACET: STEPANO AB. B. ISP.N., supposed to have covered the tomb of the first abbot, Stephen de Whitby, who died in 1112. Nearer to the Manor house (the ancient building at the back of the

1827.

museum) stood the domestic offices of the abbey, where still remain two vaults, 129 feet long, 23 feet wide, and seven feet high; each vault containing a well of excellent water. Over these were the kitchens, and part of the huge fire-places are still preserved. Nearer to the river stands the Hospitium of the abbey, which has recently been repaired. The ancient entrance to the abbey and its grounds was through the old archway in Marygate, adjoining which is a massive old building, formerly the prison of the abbot's jurisdiction, but now fitted up as a dwelling-house.

The Manor house was built by order of Henry VIII., after the dissolution of St. Mary's abbey, as already noticed. It was then called the king's manor, and that monarch resided in it for a few days in the year 1541; afterwards it was used as the residence of the lords president of the north. James I. (the arms of this monarch are placed over the entrance to the interior court) had it again converted into a regal palace, and with his queen resided here in 1603. Here, in 1633, Charles I. was crowned; and that unfortunate prince, after he commenced his disputes with the parliament, retired to this city, and here assembled those of the lords and commons who were favourable to his interest. In 1696 a royal mint was established in it; the coins struck at it bear a Y under the king's head. The building is now used for the Yorkshire school for the blind, an excellent and benevolent institution founded in 1833, as an appropriate public testimonial to the memory of William Wilberforce, Esq., (the persevering and successful advocate of the rights of the oppressed Negro race), who had represented the county of York in six successive parliaments. The funds were raised by public subscription; and in 1834 the governors obtained a lease of the manor house and grounds for a term of 99 years, at a yearly rent of £115. Children of both sexes are admitted; and since it was opened for the reception of pupils in October, 1835, it has continued in a prosperous state. Besides being instructed in reading, arithmetic, history, music, &c., the boys are taught some branches of useful handicraft, as weaving, basket-making, &c., and the girls, knitting and needle-work.

Nov. 22nd. The True Blue coach, returning from Wakefield to Leeds, was overturned at Bell-hill, and three persons died by the accident, viz., William Herfield, the driver,

1827.

killed on the spot, Mr. Charles Cope, of Leeds, and Mr. James Burrell, of Arkendale, who died soon after.

On the night of December 1st, a fatal affray occurred in Kirklees park, between Sir George Armitage's gamekeepers and watchers and a body of poachers. Uriah Womersley, one of the watchers, was killed by a bludgeon, which fractured his skull, and several of his party were severely wounded by these desperadoes, six of whom were secured, and taken to the hall, and one of those who escaped died of his wounds soon after the conflict. Six of the poachers were tried at the ensuing assizes, and were acquitted of murder; five of them afterwards pleaded guilty to the charge of being out armed at night, with the intent to kill game, and were sentenced to be transported seven years. — Dec. 7th. The foundation stone of the beautiful new church, at Oulton, near Leeds, was laid by John Blayds, Esq., of Leeds and Oulton, who munificently bequeathed the funds necessary for building and endowing the edifice, which is dedicated to St. John, and erected from plans by Rickman and Hutchinson, architects. — Early in the morning of December 18th, Kirkstall abbey mills were destroyed by a fire, which in the short space of one hour consumed property worth £12,000. The building belonged to Sir Sandford Graham, bart., and the occupants were Messrs. O. Willans and Son, cloth manufacturers, of Leeds. — Calvert's museum was opened in October this year, at No. 10, Commercial-street, and contained upwards of 15,000 specimens in natural history, &c. It has ceased to exist some years ago.

The Protestant Methodists, or as they are now called the Association of Wesleyan Methodists; or United Free Church (with whom the Wesleyan reformers have recently amalgamated,) separated from the Wesleyans in 1827. It seems that soon after the erection of Brunswick chapel in Leeds, in 1825, a project was formed of introducing an organ into that splendid place of worship. When this project was matured, a strong protest against it, signed by sixty local preachers, was presented to the proper quarter. The immediate cause of the separation was no doubt the suspension of one of the local preachers for three months, on account of his activity in resisting the introduction of the obnoxious instrument. His companions and friends made common cause with him; they resolved, in the words of their historian, "to consider the sentence of the suspended individual their sentence, and his punishment their punishment; and they determined that they would preach no

1827.-1828.

more in the Conference connexion until the sentence was revoked, or the period of punishment terminated." No satisfactory agreement having been made, the preachers and a very great number of members of the society, permanently left the Wesleyan Methodists. They soon became regularly organized; the Stone chapel in Leeds, formerly occupied by the Baptists, was taken for their use, and they speedily commenced the erection of a spacious new chapel, in Caroline-street, called Park chapel. This religious body have the following places of worship in Leeds, viz.:—Lady Lane chapel; the Tabernacle, Meadow-lane; Bethel chapel; Woodhouse chapel, St. Mark's-street; Hunslet chapel, Wilson-street; also in the principal villages in the vicinity. Previous to the amalgamation, the Wesleyan Reformers had places of worship in Sweet-street, Wilson-street, Woodhouse-Carr, and Stock Exchange, Albion-street.

Lockwood Spa, near Huddersfield, was erected in 1827, in a deeply sequestered spot, sheltered by a lofty and well-wooded ridge on the east side of the river, is a handsome range of building, comprising warm, tepid, vapour, cold, and shower baths, with a large swimming bath, and every requisite arrangement for the internal and external use of the water, which issues from a spring, and is pumped into the baths by a steam-engine. The water, which has a strong sulphureous smell and taste, contains a small proportion of carbonate of lime and sulphate of magnesia, with thirty-five parts of carburetted, and seventeen of sulphuretted hydrogen, seven of carbonic acid, and forty-one of azotic gas.

1828. Jan. 23rd, some workmen engaged in widening the road in Clegg's-lane, Huddersfield, found near the surface a bayonet, and on the following day a quantity of human bones. A human skull was discovered in the year 1816, near the same place.——In January, an ornament of red leather, resembling a bunch of lotus flowers, was found among the bandages of the mummy, presented to the philosophical society of Leeds, by the late John Blayds, Esq. The parts representing the half expanded calices of the flowers, are stamped with hieroglyphic characters, which determine the date of this very interesting monument of antiquity. (See Annals, page 275).——Feb. 9th. Mr. George Hammond's Flax mill, at the Bank, Leeds, was totally destroyed by fire: damage about £5,000.

Feb. 21st. The Hanover arms, Leeds, was entirely destroyed by fire, not a vestige of any kind of property could

1828.

be saved.——Mar. 5th. An extraordinary spring tide in the Thames did considerable damage to the contiguous wharfs, &c. In the year 1235 it rose so high, that the lawyers were brought out of Westminster hall in boats. In 1489, the conservation of the Thames was given to the lord mayors of London. In the summer of 1592, its channel was so shallow, that a man might ride over it near London bridge. On the 22nd of March, 1682, it ebbed and flowed three times in four hours. On November 4th, 1777, it ebbed and flowed twice in three hours.

April 2nd. William and John Dyon, father and son, were executed at York, for the murder of John Dyon, sen., brother to William. The body of John Dyon was taken to Leeds for dissection, and on the following day was exhibited to the public; about 2,000 persons witnessed the sad spectacle. On the 30th of April, three men, named Marrott, Wilkinson, and Harrison, were executed at the same place, for horse stealing.——Mar. 25th. The money collected in England, for the year ending at this date, for the relief of the poor, amounted to £7,391,528; of this sum, £759,905 was collected in the county of Middlesex; in Yorkshire, £556,999; and in Lancashire, £496,776.

The first stone of St. John's church, in Golcar, was laid March 13th, by the Rev. James Clarke Franks, vicar of Huddersfield.——March 28th, was opened a new branch canal, from Salterhebble to Halifax.

Mar. 30th. About two o'clock in the morning, a most dreadful and destructive fire, supposed to be the work of an incendiary, broke out in the extensive premises of Messrs. Joshua Lockwood and Co., manufacturers of cotton and woollen cords, in Manchester-street, Huddersfield, and the devouring element raged with such fury, that in about twenty minutes the roof of the principal mill fell in, and shortly after all the floors in succession; the whole factory, six stories high, then became one mass of fire, and the flames rose perpendicularly to such a height, as to be seen by all the surrounding country to a great distance. Fortunately, by dint of unremitting exertions, the remaining parts of the premises were preserved. This was the most dreadful conflagration which had happened in the town or neighbourhood of Huddersfield for many years. The loss sustained was about £10,000, and no part of the premises was insured.——At the Haigh Park races, in April, an attempt was made to revive the ancient game of wrestling, which, though an old British sport, had long been neglected in Yorkshire. The wrestling prizes contended for were



1828.

£30, £20, £15, £10, £7, and £5, which were awarded to the men of Devonshire, except £1 ls. to Finney, an Hibernian.——July 7th. The first stone of the church dedicated to St. Stephen, at Kirkstall, was laid by the vicar of Leeds. R. D. Chantrell was the architect. It is situated on an eminence, and is in the early English style, with a tower, surmounted by a lofty spire. It cost about £3,500. The interior is handsomely arranged, and contains 1,000 sittings, of which 500 are free. The site of the church and church-yard, which is planted with trees, comprising an area of two acres, was given by the earl of Cardigan. There is also a beautiful parsonage corresponding in style with the church, and two parochial schools in which 400 children receive instruction. The Rev. T. S. Bowers is the incumbent.

A monument executed by J. Gott, Esq., to the memory of colonel Lloyd, was erected in the Leeds parish church in March, 1834. It is constructed of beautiful white marble, and the inscription, of which the following is a copy, is surmounted by an admirable bust of the deceased:—

*“To the memory of Thomas Lloyd, Esquire. In his character were eminently displayed loyalty to the king, zeal for his country, and all the social virtues which mark the English gentleman. He was twice called by the general voice of the inhabitants of this borough to the important trust of lieutenant-colonel commandant of the Leeds volunteer infantry. First in the year 1794, for the protection of their property, endangered by the spread of anti-social and revolutionary principles. Secondly in the year 1803, for the preservation of their homes and liberties, under the menace of foreign invasion. By military ardour and firmness, tempered with discretion, and by kind offices of friendship and hospitality he won the affection of his corps, and was honoured with several valuable tokens of their esteem, as well as with other testimonies of public approbation. He contributed greatly to rouse that spirit of loyalty and patriotic devotion, which secured domestic order, and finally achieved the country's triumph over her foreign foes. He died at Kingthorpe house, near Pickering, the 7th day of April, A.D., 1828, aged 77 years. For a memorial of their high regard, and to hand down his bright example to future ages, some of his surviving volunteers and friends have erected this monument.”*

July 29th. The ancient and beautiful mansion in Bramham park, the seat of George Lane Fox, Esq., was destroyed by fire, with most of its costly furniture, plate, and

1828.

paintings. The house was built by the first lord Bingley, in the reign of queen Anne.——Aug. 13th. Mr. Green, the aeronaut, ascended in his balloon from Keighley, accompanied by Mr. Lawson, of that place. They alighted safely near Colne, in Lancashire.——August 27th. Mr. Green, accompanied by his brother, ascended from Bradford, and alighted near Otley.——Sept. 4th. The first stone of Emanuel church, at Lockwood, was laid.——October 3rd and 13th, Mr. Green made his sixty-fifth and sixty-sixth ascents, at Huddersfield. On the latter day, the balloon, after being inflated at the gas works, was attached to a carriage, and drawn into the Market-place, where most of the population of the town and neighbourhood assembled to witness the novel sight. Mr. Green was accompanied in his ascent by a gentleman of the town, and after remaining twenty-four minutes in the air, descended at Upper Bagden.——The third Yorkshire Musical Festival was commenced September 23rd.

In November were laid the first stones of St. Paul's and All Saint's churches, Huddersfield.——In December, public meetings were held at Leeds and other towns in Yorkshire, as well as in all other counties, and petitions sent to parliament, both for and against Catholic emancipation.

This year the external appearance of the York assembly rooms was greatly improved by the erection of a new facade, of polished freestone.——May. 14th. Died in Bethlehem hospital, the celebrated Margaret Nicholson, who attempted the life of king George III. She had been confined in the above establishment forty-two years, and was insane during the whole of that period. She was supposed to be nearly 100 years of age.——May 19th. Died at Wilsden, Joseph Pickles, in his 96th year. He left a surviving progeny of seven children, seventy-three grand children, 179 great grand children, and 50 great great grand children, in all 309, exclusive of 101 deceased.

July 27th. In Mr. Green's stone quarry, at Marsh, Southowram, near Halifax, were found three horns petrified and embedded in the flag stone, quite perfect. When found they were soft, but became hard by being exposed to the air. They were found in a bed of two and a half yards thick, having one yard above them, and one and a half yard below. They were about two feet long, and nine inches round in the thickest part, ringed from the point to the root, and grained lengthwise between the rings, which were about one inch apart.——It appears, by a police report published this year, by the House of Commons, that

1828.

the committals to the borough gaol of Leeds, from the year 1816 to 1827 were 17,463 persons, being an average of 1,455 per annum.——Sept. 19th. A mare, the property of Mr. Joseph Wallace, of Dewsbury, died suddenly. On opening her, four large stones were found in her body, one of which weighed  $5\frac{1}{2}$  lbs., and was perfectly globular. The three others were of a triangular shape; the angles were rounded as if by attrition and weighed together 4 lbs. 12 oz.

October 25th was the day fixed by the directors of the St. Catherine's dock company, London, for the opening of the dock, then completed. At a quarter before two o'clock, the noble ship Elizabeth, an East India free trader, made her majestic entry amidst a discharge of artillery, and universal English huzzahs! This extensive undertaking was commenced and completed in a very short space of time.

Nov. 8th. A labourer, who was digging near Low moor, turned up a large quantity of ancient silver and copper coins. They all appeared to be of Roman origin, though struck in different provinces of the empire; some having Greek and others Egyptian characters mixed with the common Roman letter. They are principally of the age of Julius and Augustus Cæsar.——Dec. 4th. Died, at Combe wood, the earl of Liverpool, late first lord of the treasury.

Dec. 1st. Mr. Ramsbottom's cotton factory, at Hebden bridge, was destroyed by fire, when about 600 persons were thrown out of employment, and the loss was estimated at £12,000. Dec. 15th. An infant school was established at Huddersfield.——Dec. 22nd. Died, at Holbeck, near Leeds, Betty Jackson, aged 106 years. She resided in that village all her life, and when in her twenty-third year accompanied the pack horses with rations to general Wade's army, lying at Tadcaster, on its route to Scotland, to oppose the rebels in 1745.——The Test and Corporation act was repealed this year. The dissenters first separated from the church of England in 1571.

The practice of "Burking," (called after the murderer Burke), or body snatching, to supply the hospitals with human bodies for dissection, was very common in various parts of the kingdom. All sorts of expedients were adopted to obtain bodies, which were sold at a price of sixteen guineas each; but a check was in some measure put to the trade by a startling disclosure in this year, which showed that a regular system of murder had been going on for some time, in order to supply subjects for the dissecting rooms. In the house of a man named Burke, in Edinburgh, the dead body of a woman, who had a few

1828.-1829.

hours before been in good health, was discovered. Burke himself confessed fifteen murders, which he and his accomplice Hare, had perpetrated together. Their practice was to note helpless, half-witted, or unfriended persons in the streets, and invite them home, making them first merry, and then stupidly drunk: and then suffocated them by covering the mouth and nose, and pressing upon the body. The murderer Burke was executed at Edinburgh, on January 29th, 1829.

1829. This year was the centenary of Methodism, which was founded by the Rev. John Wesley, M.A., at Oxford, in 1729.

Jan. 1st. A couple of the name of Heeson, resident at Whitkirk, had their feelings greatly distressed by finding the grave of their newly-interred child opened, the body gone, and the empty coffin and shroud left in the adjacent lane by the sacrilegious depredators.—On the 10th of January, Messrs. James Akroyd and Son's warehouse, at Brook-house, near Halifax, was destroyed by fire, together with about 2,000 pieces of worsted stuff, and a quantity of wool.—On Jan. 13th, another dreadful fire destroyed the extensive factory at Tameside, near Dobcross, except the outer walls.—On the 14th of January, B. Wilson, Esq., laid the first stone of the new church at Netherthong, of which Mr. Chantrell, of Leeds, was architect.

Jan. A poor weaver named David Lindsey, residing in Manchester, fell heir to an estate of about £300,000, by the decease of his uncle, colonel Lindsey, of the Mount, near Cupar, Fife, in Scotland. When the letter arrived, announcing David's windfall, and enclosing £150 to defray the expenses of his journey, with his wife and three children, to his country seat, he was sitting at breakfast of butterless bread and sugarless coffee. The demand by the postman of 4s. 9d., completely stunned David, for his whole stock did not amount to more than 2s. The letter would have been returned to the post office but for the arrival of a neighbour, who volunteered, after feeling that the letter contained "summut," to assist David in raising the wind.—A pig was killed at Cooper bridge, belonging to Mr. John Howgate, at the age of twenty-four weeks, which weighed nineteen stones twenty-one pounds.

In January, the workmen employed in excavating the foundation of the York museum, on the Manor shore, near St. Mary's abbey, found seven antique statues, of a strong and robust appearance, and clad in antique drapery, which had been splendidly coloured and gilt. One of them re-

1829.

presents Moses, bearing the tables of stone (and the brazen serpent) with a beard, which has been richly gilt: two of the others have books in their hands, and other two have lost their heads. They are all barefoot, and five of them are in a very perfect state.

On the 2nd of February, in this year, Jonathan Martin, a religious fanatic, a native of Hexham, in Northumberland, set fire to York minster, by which the wood work of the choir and its roof, with the organ, was completely destroyed. The clustered pillars being of magnesian limestone, were much injured; as were also many of the tombs and monuments at the east end. Fortunately the stained glass of the east and other windows escaped such injury. Jonathan was apprenticed to a tanner, and was some time at sea, where his skull was fractured; but had for several years previous to his setting fire to the minster, obtained his livelihood by hawking a pamphlet, containing a narrative of his life. He alleged that he was prompted to set fire to the place by two dreams. He accomplished his purpose by concealing himself in the minster during divine service, on Sunday, the 1st of February, having first provided himself with a razor, which he used as a steel, some tinder, matches, and a penny candle. This latter having burnt out before he had concluded his operations, he procured a wax candle, which had been used the previous evening. He went to the belfry, where he struck a light. He then cut about ninety feet from the rope of the prayer bell, which he converted into a ladder, by tying knots at certain distances, and made use of it to obtain access to the interior of the choir. There he first cut away the gold fringe ornaments from the pulpit; and the velvet from the archbishop's throne, and the dean's and precentor's seats. He next piled all the cushions, surplices, and books which he could get, in two heaps, one near the archbishop's throne, and the other near the organ, and set fire to them. He then made his escape by breaking one of the windows, (to which he ascended by means of the machine used for cleaning the minster), and letting himself down by the knotted rope. He took with him the gold fringe, velvet, and a small bible. The fire was discovered about seven o'clock in the morning, by one of the choristers, a lad named Swinbank, who saw smoke issuing from the roof; and although the most prompt assistance was given, the fire raged with great fury for several hours, but it was found impossible to save any part of the wood work of that part of this noble edifice. The roof caught

1829.

fire from the organ; and by half-past eleven o'clock, the whole of the beautiful tabernacle work of carved oak, which adorned the prayer-house, the stalls, the pulpit, the cathedra, the fine organ, and the roof, were destroyed; and nothing remained but a mass of burning ruins, which covered the floor, and transformed this part of the cathedral into a vast ignited furnace. The investigation set on foot into the causes of the fire fixed the guilt so clearly on Martin, that a reward of £100 was offered for his apprehension; and he was taken the Friday following, at Codlaw-hill, the residence of a relation named Kell, about three miles from Hexham. He was tried at the assizes following, before Mr. Baron Hullock, and acquitted, after a trial of nine hours, on the ground of insanity. He was ordered to be confined in St. Luke's hospital, London, where he died in 1838. The damage done amounted to about £70,000, and nearly the whole of this sum was raised by public subscription. The government gave timber to the value of £5,000, and the stone was given by Sir E. M. Vavasour, bart., of Hazelwood. The magnificent organ was presented by the hon. and Rev. J. L. Saville (afterwards the earl of Scarborough); and the communion plate by his grace the archbishop. The minster was opened again for divine service on the 6th May, 1832.

Feb. 3rd. The festival of bishop Blaise was celebrated at Wakefield.—Feb. 21st. A fire broke out in the east end of the attic story of one of Messrs. Marshall and Co.'s flax mills, in Water-lane, Holbeck. Upwards of forty tons of flax was in the room where the fire originated: a considerable quantity of which was destroyed.

March 6th. A large building, occupied as a wool warehouse and tobacco manufactory, in the Calls, at Leeds, and partly inhabited by Mr. John Wade, was destroyed by fire, and the corpse of his son was with difficulty saved from the devouring element.

Mar. 6th. Michael Thomas Sadler, Esq., of Leeds, was returned M.P. for Newark.—Mar. 21st. Died, in the 92nd year of his age, John Sowden, of Brighouse, near Halifax. He was born in the house where he died, and never lived one month in any other. He brought up to manhood in the same house ten children, six of whom were at this time living: and had forty-five grand children, and fifty-three great grand children, twenty-three of whom were married.

April 8th. The town of Dewsbury was lighted with gas for the first time.—April 13th. The Roman Catholic relief bill received the royal assent, thus setting at rest



1829.

that question, which, for half a century, agitated the empire, embarrassed the government, and divided the people.—April 26th. A fire broke out in the south end of Ross mill, Bramley, belonging to Mr. James Hudson, and damage was done to the amount of £4,000.

During the month of April, a number of rare organic remains were found in a stone quarry, near Huddersfield. The most remarkable of these relics is that of a petrified fish, resembling the *anguilla* species, and about three feet six inches in length; near the head the circumference is about eleven inches, in the middle six inches and three quarters, and just above the tail, four inches. The singularity of this specimen is increased by the division of the whole length of the fish into joints about five or six inches from each other, resembling the joints of a branch or trunk of a tree. The exterior of each joint has also that sulcated appearance, so common in many of these lithophytic remains, and which has often been compared to oriental bamboo. The number of joints in the fish are nine, but in some of the smaller specimens, the exterior appearance is the same, though the joints are fewer. Along with these remains were collected some petrified shells, apparently of the muscle genus, and others more like oysters. These geological discoveries were the more remarkable, as almost all that had hitherto been discovered in this coal district, were evidently remains of the vegetable kingdom.

The Leeds Commercial News Room, in the Exchange, was opened May 1st, this year, by 500 subscribers of one guinea and a half each per annum.

On Sunday, May 3rd, commenced a most disgraceful contention in the village of Meltham, which was continued several weeks, in consequence of Mr. Kean, the curate of the late incumbent of the chapelry, refusing to give up possession of the benefice to the vicar of Almondbury, the Rev. L. Jones, who, in exercising his right of presentation, had nominated himself, it being a better living than his vicarage. On the Sunday morning, Mr. Kean and his party took possession of the church before six o'clock in the morning, and locked and barricaded the doors, both of the church and church yard. At half-past ten, the Rev. L. Jones arrived with a large body of special constables, and forced the gate, and afterwards the door of the church. When they arrived in the interior, they found Mr. Kean in the pulpit, and the Rev. Vicar demanded that it should be given up to him. This was peremptorily refused, and the vicar was prevented ascending the pulpit stairs by a crowd



1829.

of persons standing on them; he therefore proceeded to read himself in, in one of the pews, which he supposed would answer every legal purpose; and then left the church. Mr. Kean afterwards performed divine service, morning and evening, and, on his leaving the church, his party locked and secured the doors. During the continuance of this shameful clerical contest, much violence and outrage was committed by both parties, but it was finally settled by the archbishop, in favour of the vicar of the parish.

May 4th. The earl of Surrey was elected member of parliament for Horsham, being the first Catholic member returned to the Commons after the passing of the Catholic relief bill.—April 12th. A fatal accident happened in the Methodist chapel, at Heckmondwike, where, during the time that Mr. Dawson, of Barnbow, (a popular preacher among the Wesleyan Methodists), was preaching to a crowded congregation for the benefit of the Sunday school, the noise occasioned by the falling of a stove pipe created such an alarm, that the people, fearing the gallery was falling, made a simultaneous rush towards the doors, and, in an instant, such a scene of consternation and confusion ensued as no pen can describe. Those who first gained the narrow passages, leading from the galleries, were thrown down by those behind, who, in their turn, were overturned by those rushing from the body of the chapel. In vain did the preacher attempt to calm the tumult, for his voice was drowned in the shrieks of the terrified and the groans of the dying. When the alarm had subsided, the most appalling spectacle presented itself; two heaps of persons unable to rise were piled up at the doors to the height of four or five feet, and five persons were taken out dead; six or seven were removed apparently in a lifeless state, and twenty others were slightly injured.

April 18th. The Halifax tithe commutation bill, intituled "An act for extinguishing tithes, and payments in lieu of tithes, mortuaries and Easter offerings, and other vicarial dues and payments within the parish of Halifax, in the diocese of the county of York; and for making compensation to the vicar in lieu thereof, and enabling him to grant certain leases of lands belonging to the vicarage," received the royal assent. By this act the annual stipend of £1,409 15s. 6d. was to be paid to the vicar of Halifax, by the various townships in the parish, in certain proportions, and was to be levied by an assessment on all inhabited houses, corn mills, and arable, meadow, and pasture lands, orchards, and gardens in each township.—On May 16th, B. Haigh

1829.

Allen, Esq., of Greenhead, was interred in Trinity church, Huddersfield, which edifice he had recently built and endowed. Such general esteem had his character as a magistrate and a gentleman acquired him, that his funeral was attended by about seven hundred persons, clad in deep mourning, and all the shops and warehouses in the town were closed during the melancholy ceremony.

May 25th. Healey mill, at Ossett, belonging to Messrs. Wilby and Co., scribbling and fulling millers, was destroyed by fire.——June 6th. A sturgeon was caught in the river Ouse, near Selby, which weighed 176 lbs., and measured seven feet three inches in length. On the following morning this monster of the deep was brought to Leeds, where it was purchased by Mr. Denny, for the museum of the Leeds philosophical and literary society.——On June 3rd the foundation stone of the Union or Suspension bridge over the Aire, at Hunslet, to communicate with the York road, was laid by Mr. John Danby. It is of a very curious construction, designed by Mr. Leather, C.E. The suspending arch is about 150 feet span. It cost £4,200, and affords considerable accommodation between Hunslet-lane and Knostrop-road.——June 13th. Huddersfield was visited with a dreadful hurricane, which suddenly filled the town with such a dense cloud of dust, that the inhabitants could not see the houses on the opposite sides of the streets, and some passengers were in danger of suffocation. The wind appeared to blow from every quarter, and at Taylor hill, a large quantity of dye-wood, spread out to dry, was carried far away from its owner.——June 21st, was laid the first stone of the new church at Morley. On the 29th of the same month John Charles Ramsden, Esq., M.P., laid the foundation stone of the Huddersfield and Upper Agbrigg infirmary.

July 4th, appeared the first number of the Halifax commercial chronicle newspaper.——July 6th, was commenced the erection of the bridge which crosses the Aire at School close, Leeds. It is a neat and substantial structure, of the Doric order, built under the direction of Mr. Leather, C.E., by Mr. Mark Faviel, at a cost of £8,000. It is of one arch eighty feet span, and forty-five feet broad between the battlements. A toll-house is erected at the side. The bridge is now free for foot passengers. It was opened on the 18th of September.——July 31st. Died, in the 66th year of his age, baron Hullock, one of the judges of assize.

On August 5th, was laid the first stone of St. Matthew's church, at Holbeck. It is a large and handsome fabric,

1829.

and is in the early English style of architecture. It was erected by government in lieu of the ancient chapel, which was mentioned in a Bull granted by the Pope to Ralph Paganell, who lived in the time of William the Conqueror, and has been given by the said Ralph Paganell to the priory of the Holy Trinity, at York—the date 1089. The edifice was consecrated January 3rd, 1832. The perpetual curacy, valued at £70, is in the patronage of the vicar of Leeds. The Rev. J. H. F. Kendall is incumbent.——Hirst mill, at Longwood, was destroyed by fire August 18th.

On the 26th and 28th of August this year was held on the Humber, at Hull, a splendid regatta for yachts; sailing vessels under forty tons; six oared boats, four oared jolly boats, gold dusters, &c.; these and many others being intermixed with a great number of steam-packets, trimmed like the rest, with holiday flags, &c., rendered the whole an amusing and interesting spectacle.

On the night of July 11th, a dreadful inundation occurred in Leeds and the neighbourhood, occasioned by the bursting of a reservoir, situate at Black hill, near Adle, about seven miles north-west of Leeds, which broke down its banks. The reservoir is situated nearly at the head of the stream known by the various names of Adle beck, Woodhouse beck, and Sheepscar beck, through which places it passes in its course to Leeds. The dam occupies an extent of from twenty to twenty-five acres, and is rather formed by natural than artificial means, the only embankment being at the east end, which is about fifteen feet high, and it was the breaking or giving way of this embankment, which caused the flood. A breach having been made, the water rushed through with dreadful impetuosity, swelling the small rivulet of Adle beck to a mighty stream, and carrying ruin and destruction along with it, until it emptied itself into the river Aire, at Leeds. Nothing could arrest its progress. It threw down bridges, levelled walls, uprooted fences, and carried devastation into all the adjoining lands. Nor was the injury confined to mill-owners and those of large property. The dwellings of the humble cottagers were deluged, many of whom suffered severely, and some were deprived of every vestige of clothing and furniture they had in the world. The whole contents of this vast reservoir emptied itself in two hours, and the flood reached to a greater height than any that had occurred since that at the close of the contested election in 1807, known at Leeds by the name of the Milton flood.——During this month, the men employed

1829.

in lowering the road at Quarry-hill, Leeds, discovered several specimens of fossils, and other relics of "olden time," amongst which was a quern, in good preservation; an utensil which, in the time of the Anglo-Saxons, was used in every family for the purpose of grinding corn into flour.—On September 23rd, was laid the first stone of Birkinshaw church, near Birstal.

About eleven o'clock on Monday night, the 9th of November, this year, died, in the 71st year of his age, *Samuel Hick*, of Micklefield, in Yorkshire, well known as the village blacksmith, and a popular itinerent Wesleyan preacher. He was born at Aberford, September 25th, 1758, and was one of thirteen children. His parents were very poor and could not afford to give him an education, so that he grew up to manhood without being able to read or write. At the age of 14 he was bound apprentice to Edward Derby, of Healaugh, near Tadcaster, to learn the trade of a blacksmith. During his apprenticeship, he was frequently impressed with religious feelings, especially by the addresses of Richard Burdsall, whom he followed from place to place, travelling many scores of miles, and never hearing him without being blessed under his preaching. Just before the expiration of his time, Samuel fell in love with his master's daughter, or, rather, she fell in love with him. Mr. Derby, coming down stairs one morning sooner than usual, found the girl seated on Samuel's knee. Without saying a word, he went to consult his wife as to what should be done to stop the affair, saying, "I believe she is as fond of the lad as ever cow was of a calf." The upshot of the matter was, that with a good deal of angry feeling, the master ordered Samuel to leave his house and service. Samuel did not stick fast; to use his own narration, "When I was one and twenty years of age, there was a shop at liberty at Micklefield and my father took it for me. I here began business for myself, and when I had paid for my tools, I was left without a penny in my pocket, or a bit of bread to eat: but I was strong, in good health, and laboured hard, and that God who sent the ravens to feed his servant, fed me. One day, while at work, a man came into my shop, who told me that his wife had fed the pig so fat, as to render it useless to the family, and that he would sell me the one half of it very cheap. I told him that I wished it were in my power to make the purchase—that I was much in need—but that I was

1829.

without money. He replied, he would trust me, and I agreed to take it. I mentioned the circumstance to a neighbour, who offered to lend me five pounds, which I accepted; and out of this I paid the man for what I had bought. I continued to labour hard, and the Lord in his abundant goodness, supplied all my wants." After being established in business eighteen months, he observes, "The Lord saw that I wanted a helpmeet: knew the character that would suit me best, and was so kind as to furnish me with one of his own choosing." He soon unbosomed his feelings, was accepted, and finally united in holy matrimony in Spofford church. The union proved a long and happy one: his wife was about five years his senior, and survived him three years. On leaving the church, after the marriage, a number of poor widows pressed around him to solicit alms—his heart was touched: "I began the world" said he to himself "without money, and I will again begin it straight." He thereupon emptied his pocket of all the money he possessed. After marriage, (his frugal wife, Martha, looking after the cash), he prospered: he used to say, "The Lord gave me a good wife, and I have never wanted money since." He says, "That for some time after marriage, both he and his wife were strangers to saving grace—that he was converted through a vision which appeared to him in his sleep. His mother-in-law, who had been a member of the Wesleyan Connexion, died, and he dreamed that she appeared to him arrayed in white, took him by the hand, and affectionately warned him "to flee from the wrath to come." "My eyes," said he, "were opened—I saw all the sins I had committed through the whole course of my life—I was like the psalmist,—I cried out like the gaoler—I said my prayers as I never did before." From that time till his death, he followed a career of christian usefulness, always exhibiting a strictly moral conduct. He became a joined Methodist, and soon after made up his mind to preach. "I know that the Lord," says he, "has given me *one* talent, and I am resolved to use it. He has given friend D. ten; but I am determined that he shall never run away with my one." About the year 1797, Mr. Dawson says, that Samuel was actively engaged as a prayer-leader and exhorter in the villages of Garforth, Barwick, Kippax, Micklefield, &c.; and, having a horse at command, he could go to the most distant places without difficulty. He was subsequently (about 1803) on both the Selby and Pontefract plans as a local preacher. "In person he was tall and bony, rising

1829.

to the height of about six feet. Hard labour and the nature of his employment gave a roundness to the upper part of his back, and a slight elevation to his right shoulder. His hair was naturally light, his complexion fair, his face full, but more inclined to the oval than the round, and his general features small, with a soft, quick, blue-grey, twinkling eye." His mind was peculiarly constructed. There was no system about his sermons; his thoughts seemed broken into fragments. His mode of expression, half solemn, half comic, would cause his hearers one moment to smile, the next they would be in tears: such was his sudden transition from one train of thoughts to another. There was no polish about his speech. His language was of the broadest West-Yorkshire dialect; but to thousands of the poor and others as unlettered as himself, the village blacksmith was of essential service. His zeal was not a mere crackling blaze in the pulpit. His workshop was his chapel, and many were the homilies which he delivered over the anvil and over the vice, to both poor and rich. He says, "In those days there were not many noble, not many rich, called. For my own part, I have travelled many scores of miles, and neither tasted meat nor drink till I got home. [in the evening]. I have very often had snowballs thrown at me, and been abused by the enemies of the cross of Christ. I have been turned out of places where I have been preaching by the clergy and the magistrates; but bless the Lord, I have lived to see better days." Through the exertions of Samuel, a Methodist chapel was erected at Aberford, his native town, towards which he gave £20. Mr. Dawson says, "Samuel Hick laid the first stone; and, as he offered the first prayer upon the first stone that was laid, so in the pulpit of the same chapel, he preached his last sermon and poured forth his last public prayer for the prosperity of zion." His charity was unbounded—indeed his wife had now and then to stop the supplies, or he would have been a poor man all his life. "His heart always melted at the sight, or on hearing the tale of woe. He could not hear of persons in distress, but he wept over them; and if they were within his reach, he relieved them according to his ability." One day, as he was returning from the pit with a load of coals, a little girl seeing him pass, asked him for a piece of coal, stating that her mother was confined, and the family without fire. He went with the girl home, found the story correct, brought the cart



1829.

to the door, and poured down the load free of cost. Another time, some soldiers on a forced march, halted at Micklefield early in the morning. A thrill of loyalty and sympathy filled Samuel's bosom. He soon placed before the men the whole contents of the buttery, pantry, and cellar: bread, cheese, milk, butter, meat, and beer speedily went. When his wife, Martha, came down stairs, she proceeded to the buttery to skim the milk for breakfast. To her astonishment all had disappeared. Enquiry was made, and when she found how the things had been disposed of, she chided him, saying, "You might have taken the cream off before you gave it to them." Samuel replied, "Bless thee *barn*, it would do them more good with the cream on it." He once visited a poor aged widow, and gave her sixpence, all the money he had with him. The widow was overpowered with gratitude, and Samuel was greatly affected by it, saying to himself, "Bless me, can sixpence make a poor creature happy? How many sixpences have I spent on this mouth of mine, in feeding it with tobacco? I will never take another pipe whilst I live: I will give to the poor whatever I save from it." Soon after this Samuel was ill, and his medical attendant said it was in some measure caused by his suddenly breaking off the use of the pipe. The following dialogue occurred:—

*Physician*—"You must resume the use of the pipe, Mr. Hick." *Samuel*—"Never more, sir, while I live."

*Physician*—"It is essential to your restoration to health, and I cannot be answerable for consequences, should you reject the advice given." *Samuel*—"Let come what will, I'll never take another pipe: I've told my Lord so, and I'll abide by it." *Physician*—"You will in all probability die then." *Samuel*—"Glory be to God for that! I shall go to heaven. I have made a vow, and I'll keep it."

To illustrate Samuel's faith in the efficacy of prayer, we will give the following anecdotes:—In the course of a summer of excessive drought, a few years back, when the grain suffered greatly, and many of the cattle, especially in Lincolnshire, died, Samuel was much affected. He visited Knaresborough, at which place he preached on the Lord's day. Remaining in the town and neighbourhood over the Sabbath, he appeared extremely restless in the house in which he resided, during the whole of Monday. His restlessness and singularity of manners attracted the attention of the family so much, that they asked if anything was the matter with him. "Bless



1829.

you, *barns*," was his reply, "do you not recollect that I was praying for rain last night in the pulpit? and what will the Infidels at Knaresbro' think, if it do not come?—If my Lord should fail me, and not stand by me? But it must have time: it cannot be here yet. It has to come from the sea. Neither can it be seen at first: the prophet only saw a bit of cloud like a man's hand; by and by it spread along the sky. I am looking for an answer to my prayer; but it must have time." "Towards evening the sky became overcast, and the clouds dropped the fatness of a shower upon the earth." In 1817, Samuel was about to hold a love-feast at Micklefield, and had invited persons from Knottingley and other places. He had promised that two loads of corn should be ground for the occasion. The day fixed for the love-feast drew near: there was no flour in the house, and the windmills, in consequence of a long calm, stretched out their arms in vain to catch the rising breeze. In the midst of this death-like quiet, Samuel, carried his corn to the mill nearest his own residence, and requested the miller to unfurl his sails. The miller objected, stating that there was "No wind." Samuel, on the other hand, continued to urge his request, saying, "I will go and pray while you spread the cloth." The miller stretched his canvass, and, to his utter astonishment, a fine breeze sprung up—the fans whirled round—the corn was converted into meal—and Samuel returned with his burthen rejoicing, and had everything in readiness for the festival. A neighbour who had seen the fans in vigorous motion, took also some corn to be ground; but the wind had dropped, and the miller remarked to him, "You must send for Samuel Hick to pray for the wind to blow again." Samuel was once at a friend's house, at which was present the Rev. A. L., and Mr. U, a solicitor. During the evening a prayer-meeting was held. Samuel was called upon to pray, in the course of which he prayed that Mr. A. L. might obtain a good wife. He then prayed for the conversion of Mr. U., saying, "Lord save the *'torney*. What he is thou knowest—I know not; but when he is saved, he will not charge folk so much money for their jobs. Thou hast saved an attorney at Long Preston, and he gets as good a living as any of them. Lord save this man." At the beginning of 1826, he had made sufficient money to enable him to retire from business. He then entered upon a wider sphere of usefulness, preaching in several

1829.

circuits in Yorkshire and Lancashire, and travelling entirely at his own expense. His addresses in the pulpit rarely exceeded half an hour. He used to say, "I cannot go straight forward in preaching; but when I miss my mark in going, I often fell them in coming back." A friend urged him to employ more method in his sermons, he replied, "Why, bless you *barn*, I give it them hot off the bakestone!" He continued until the very year of his death, preaching, travelling, and visiting the sick. In September of 1829, hearing that a niece of his who resided at Grassington, was very ill, he took the coach for Skipton. The day was exceedingly wet, and he being on the outside, his clothes were drenched with rain. He arrived a few days before his niece died, but received his own death-stroke from the journey: for he caught a severe cold, which settled upon his lungs, and from which he never fully recovered. On his return home he was only able to preach a few times and attend two missionary meetings. He now began to sink fast, though not confined to bed till a short time before he died. He died on the day mentioned at the beginning of this sketch. Such was the esteem in which he was held, that his remains were followed to Aberford by about a thousand people. In Samuel Hick, was an amazing amount of simple, pure, unsophisticated nature, combined with the strictest moral conduct and the most fervid zeal. He was remarkable for great openness of disposition and unbounded generosity, as well as faith and prayer; and by his one talent yielded a greater harvest of good to the christian church than many with their ten. His memoirs, by Everett, (to which the compiler is indebted for this sketch), passed through eleven editions in about as many years, embracing between twenty and thirty thousand copies.

A large portion of Calverley mills, occupied by Mr. William Greenwood, was destroyed by fire, on the 2nd of December.—Dec. 18th. The wool-combing shop of W. Burnley and Sons, of Gomersal, was completely destroyed by another accidental conflagration.

Dec. 7th. The woollen mill belonging to Abraham Haigh and Co., of Longwood, near Huddersfield, was totally destroyed by fire.—The bridge at the bottom of Lady-lane, Leeds, was enlarged this year.

On the 30th of December, a large and beautiful wild swan was shot at Cross Aipes, near Huddersfield. It measured from the extremities of the wings eight feet

1829.

six inches, and from the beak to the tail three feet six inches. On being divested of its skin, the body was cooked, and afforded a repast for twenty-one persons.

During this year great distress prevailed in the town of Barnsley, the principal seat of the Yorkshire linen manufacture. An attempt was made on the part of several of the masters to reduce the wages of the weavers, and a long strike was the consequence. After a struggle of five months, the workmen found themselves under the necessity of accepting the reduced rate of wages.

*The Liverpool and Manchester Railway Company* having offered a prize of £500 for the best locomotive engine, the 8th of October in this year was fixed for the trial, and on the appointed day three engines were brought forward to compete for the prize. Stephenson was there with his "Rocket"; Hackworth with the "Sanspareil"; and Braithwaite and Ericsson with the "Novelty." The test assigned was to run a distance of thirty miles, at not less than ten miles an hour, backwards and forwards, along a two miles level near Rainhill, drawing a load three times the weight of the engine. The Novelty, after running twice along the level, was disabled by failure of the boiler plates, and withdrawn. The Sanspareil traversed eight times at a speed of nearly fifteen miles an hour, when it was stopped by a derangement of the machinery. The Rocket travelled over the stipulated thirty miles in two hours and seven minutes, nearly, with a speed at times of twenty-nine miles an hour, and at the slowest nearly twelve: in the latter case exceeding the advertised maximum, in the former, almost tripling it. The prize was at once awarded to the *Rocket*. The Rocket weighed six tons: locomotives now weigh from thirty to forty tons. The first application to parliament for the bill to construct the Liverpool and Manchester railway was made in 1825, when the interest of the proprietors of the navigation defeated it; the application was renewed in 1826, and succeeded. The capital of the company was £510,000, raised in shares of £100. Mr. George Stephenson was appointed the principal engineer, at a salary of £1,000, and he carried through the work in the most admirable manner. The operations were commenced in June, 1826, by the draining of Chat Moss. Three additional acts were obtained by the company in different years, one for borrowing £100,000, another for shortening the original route, and a third for raising the additional sum of £127,500 for the carrying department of the railway, and also for continuing the railway by a bridge over the Irwell, into Manchester.

1829.

The railway commences at Wapping, near the banks of the Mersey, in Liverpool, and is carried under the town by a spacious tunnel, 2,250 yards long, of which 1,980 yards form a regular slope, rising 123 feet, or three-fourths of an inch to the yard: the tunnel is twenty-two feet wide, and sixteen high, and is arched over, whitewashed, and illuminated with gas. There is another small tunnel connected with the railway at Liverpool, intended for the landing of passengers by the coaches at the upper part of the town, and of such goods as may require to be left there; this tunnel is 290 yards long, fifteen feet wide, and twelve high. The whole length of the railway is thirty-one miles. The most magnificent construction on the line in its external appearance is the Sankey viaduct, upwards of fourteen miles from Liverpool, where the railway is carried across the valley and canal of the Sankey, at an elevation of seventy feet, by an extensive embankment, and a stupendous bridge of nine arches, each fifty feet span, and twenty-five feet in width. The vessels on the canal sail under the bridge with their masts and sails up, and the effect of the erection is scarcely inferior to that of the finest Roman aqueducts. Near the town of Newton, the railway passes over a lofty bridge of four arches and a high embankment. It then passes through the Kenyon excavation, out of which 800,000 cubic yards of clay and sand were dug. Chat Moss, over which the railway passes for four miles, was thought by some to present an insuperable difficulty to the completion of the work. It is a huge bog, twelve miles square, and from ten to thirty-five feet deep; in many places so soft that cattle cannot walk upon it, and that an iron rod would sink by its own weight to the bottom of the Moss. "The railway," says Mr. Henry Booth, "for the most part floats on the surface, its compactness and buoyancy in the most fluid places being assisted by hurdles of brushwood and heather, laid under the wood sleepers which support the rails. The portion of the Moss which presented the most difficulty in its completion, was about half a mile on the east border, where an embankment of about twenty feet had to be formed above the natural level. The weight of this embankment resting on a semi-fluid base, pressed down the original surface: many thousand cubic yards gradually and silently disappeared, before the line of road made any approach to the proposed level. By degrees, however, the whole mass beneath and on each side of this embankment became consolidated by the superincumbent and lateral pressure, and

1829.-1830.

a little perseverance finally completed the work." The construction of this line was a great trial, not only of the skill and energy of the engineer, but of the patience of the directors. For a fuller account of the railway and the difficulties attending its construction, see Dr. Smiles's life of Stephenson, to which we are indebted for an account of the:—

1830. *Opening of the Liverpool and Manchester Railway*—  
“At length the line was completed, and ready for the public ceremony of opening, which took place on the 30th of September, 1830. This important event attracted a vast number of spectators from all parts of the country. Strong palings were erected for miles along the deep cuttings near Liverpool, to keep off the pressure of the multitude, and prevent them falling over in their eagerness to witness the passing trains. Constables and soldiers were there in numbers to assist in keeping the line clear. The completion of the railway was justly regarded as an important national event, and the ceremony of opening was celebrated accordingly. The duke of Wellington, then prime minister, Sir Robert Peel, secretary of state, Mr. Huskisson, one of the members for Liverpool, and an earnest supporter of the project from its commencement, were amongst the number of distinguished public personages present. Eight locomotives constructed at the Stephenson works, had been delivered and placed upon the line, the whole of which had been tried and tested weeks before, with perfect success. The various trains of carriages accommodated in all about six hundred persons. The “Northumbrian” engine, driven by Mr. George Stephenson himself, headed the procession; then followed the “Phoenix,” driven by Robert Stephenson; the “North Star,” by Robert Stephenson, sen., (brother of George); the “Rocket,” by Joseph Locke; the “Dart,” by Thomas L. Groch; the “Comet,” by William Alcard; the “Arrow,” by Frederick Swanwick; and the “Meteor,” by Anthony Harding. The procession was cheered in its progress by thousands of spectators, through the deep ravine of Olive mount, up the Sutton incline, over the great Sankey viaduct, beneath which a multitude of persons had assembled—carriages filling the narrow lanes, and barges crowding the river: the people below gazing with wonder and admiration at the trains which sped along the line, far above their heads, at the rate of some twenty-four miles an hour. At Parkside, some seventeen miles from Liverpool, the engines stopped to take water.

1830.

Here a deplorable accident occurred to one of the most distinguished of the illustrious visitors present, which threw a deep shadow over the subsequent proceedings of the day. The Northumbrian engine, with the carriage containing the duke of Wellington, was drawn up on one line, in order that the whole of the trains might pass in review before him, and his party on the other. Mr. Huskisson had, unhappily, alighted from the carriage, and was standing on the opposite road, along which the Rocket engine was observed rapidly coming up. At this moment the duke of Wellington, between whom and Mr. Huskisson some coolness had existed, made a sign of recognition, and held out his hand. A hurried but friendly grasp was given; and before it was loosened, there was a general cry from the bystanders of "Get in, get in." Flurried and confused, Mr. Huskisson endeavoured to get round the opened door of the carriage, which projected over the opposite rail; but in so doing, he was struck down by the Rocket, and falling with his leg doubled across the rail, the limb was instantly crushed. His first words on being raised, were, "I have met my death," which unhappily proved too true, for he expired that same evening in the neighbouring parsonage of Eccles. It was cited at the time as a remarkable fact, that the Northumbrian engine conveyed the wounded body of the unfortunate gentleman a distance of about fifteen miles in twenty-five minutes, or at the rate of thirty-six miles an hour. This incredible speed burst upon the world with the effect of a new and unlooked for phenomenon. The lamentable accident threw a gloom over the rest of the day's proceedings. The duke of Wellington and Sir Robert Peel expressed a wish that the procession should return to Liverpool. It was, however, represented to them that a vast concourse of people had assembled at Manchester to witness the arrival of the trains; that report would exaggerate the mischief, if they did not complete the journey, and that a false panic on that day might seriously affect future railway travelling, and the value of the company's property. The party consented accordingly to proceed to Manchester, but on the understanding that they should return as soon as possible, and refrain from further festivity.

Jan. A pig was slaughtered by Thomas Spedding, of Dewsbury, bred by Abraham Ibbetson, Esq., which weighed fifty stones eight pounds, one of the hams weighing eighty

1830.

pounds.——On the 6th of January, the extensive cotton and woollen mill, at Wheatley, near Halifax, belonging to Mr. James Greenwood, was destroyed by fire. It employed above 400 workmen.——Jan. 20th, Messrs. Barker and Musgrave's woollen mill, at Bramley, was destroyed by fire.

During the severe storm in the early part of this year, upwards of sixty deer perished in the park of Sir George Armytage, at Kirkstall.——Jan. The Airedale heifer, the property of Mr. Slingsby, of Riddlesden hall, near Keighley, was slaughtered in consequence of a severe contusion on one of her hind quarters, which turned to a mortification. The owner had 400 guineas offered for her, and was to receive one half of the profit arising from her exhibition in England. She weighed 41 stones 12 lbs., per quarter, 16 lbs. to the stone, and measured eleven feet ten inches from her nose to the stump of the tail, and ten feet six inches in girth; she was eleven inches deep in fat on the ribs.——Jan. The celebrated William Cobbett was at this time on a visit to Leeds, and gave a course of three lectures at the theatre, Hunslet-lane, on "The present distress, and the means to be adopted to alleviate it." A local paper says, that "As everybody flocked to hear him, so everybody talks of his person, his performances, and his doctrines."——Feb. 3rd, died the venerable earl of Mexborough, of Methley park, in the 69th year of his age.

The Exchange buildings at Bradford were opened this year.——Feb. The inhabitants of the villages of Calverley and Idle and the district surrounding, were thrown into a state of great agitation by the discovery that the body of Sarah Gomersal, a young woman about 28 years of age, which was interred on the 8th of January, had been stolen from her burial place, in Calverley parish church yard.——Feb. 15th. A meeting of the "Leeds stuff manufactures, operatives, and others connected with their interests," was held at the new top mill, Bank, when it was resolved to petition parliament "To curtail the rapid increase of the power-loom, by the imposition of a tax on the goods manufactured by that means. The petition is curious, as showing the ideas respecting machinery thirty years ago. It states "That the rapid increase of that branch of machinery, which inverts the decrees of Providence, by superseding manual labour, is an evil of such magnitude as to strike at the actual existence of the working classes at no distant period. That the situation of the hand-loom weaver and his family in this district is wretched in the extreme, &c., &c. Your



1830.

petitioners implore your honourable house to take their case into your immediate and most serious consideration, and by cramping that engine of misery, the power-loom, afford relief to thousands of your peaceable and industrious fellow-subjects, now grovelling in poverty and wretchedness, through the all-absorbing influence of that most injurious of inventions." This petition received 1,500 signatures, and was presented by M. T. Sadler, Esq., M.P. The Leeds stuff weavers were shortly after this time on the strike for an advance of wages.

Feb. 23rd. A motion by lord John Russell, in the House of Commons, for leave to bring in a bill to enable the towns of Manchester, Leeds, and Birmingham, to return representatives to parliament, was lost by 188 against 140.

Feb. 29th. A fearful accident occurred at the new Brunswick theatre, Wells-street, London, (during the time of rehearsal, when many people were in the theatre,) caused by the walls giving way, and by the falling in of the iron roof; ten houses on the opposite side of the street were destroyed, and some passengers and a dray and horses crushed. Eleven persons within the theatre were killed, and twenty others severely hurt. The coroner's jury sat six weeks, and returned a verdict of strong censure against the architects of the building.——Mar. 13th. The Manchester and Huddersfield mail was overturned at Longroyd bridge, and the coachman and passengers were precipitated a depth of ten or eleven yards upon some large stones by the river Colne, by which accident Mr. Samuel Statham, of Huddersfield, was killed, and Mr. D. Berry, of Almondbury, had his leg broken.——Mar. 25th. The first stone of St. James's church, Halifax, was laid.

Mar. 30th. Died Mr. J. Thomas, aged 89. He held the office of town's cryer, in Leeds, upwards of fifty-five years.——April 1st. Mr. Peel brought a bill into the House of Commons, which passed into law, to abolish the punishment of death for forgery, except for the forgery of the great seal, the privy seal, and the sign manual.

April 5th. William Shaw was executed at York, for the murder of Rachel Crossley; after the murder he threw her body into a coal pit, at Kirkburton.——April 14th. The foundation stone of St. Martin's church, Brighouse, was laid.——May 11th. Lord Milton presented a petition to the House of Commons from Leeds, signed by from 13,000 to 14,000 of the inhabitants, praying for retrenchment and parliamentary reform.——May 15th. Died, aged 37, the

1830.

Rev. George Walker, M.A., late fellow of Trinity college, Cambridge, rector of Papworth Everard in the same county, head master of the Leeds free grammar school, and officiating minister of Trinity church, Leeds. He was a man of unquestionable talents and high attainments, and discharged his various duties with that vigorous attention and efficiency which characterise mental ardour and cultivation. He was appointed head master of the free school in 1818, and succeeded the Rev. G. P. Richards, M.A., on his resignation. He was entombed in one of the vaults of St. Paul's church, Leeds. On the 28th July following, the Rev. Joseph Holmes, M.A., of Croxton, near Caxton, late fellow and tutor of queen's college, Cambridge, was elected head master of the Leeds free school, in the place of Mr. Walker.—The masters of this school since its commencement to this date have been;—

<i>Samuel Pullen, D.D.,</i> A.D. 1624.	<i>Thomas Barnard, M.A.</i> 1712.
<i>Joshua Pullen, D.D.,</i> . 1630.	<i>R. Sedgewicke, M.A.</i> . 1750.
<i>John Garnett, M.A.,</i> . 1651.	<i>Samuel Brooke, M.A.</i> . 1764.
<i>Michael Gilberts, M.A.,</i> 1662.	<i>Thos. Goodinge, L.L.D.</i> 1778.
<i>Edward Clarke, M.A.,</i> . 1690.	<i>Joseph Whitely, M.A.</i> . 1790.
<i>Miles Farrer, M.A.,</i> . 1694.	<i>Geo. P. Richards, M.A.,</i> 1815.
<i>Thomas Dwyer, B.D.,</i> 1698.	<i>George Walker, M.A.</i> . 1818.
<i>Thomas Dixon, M.A.</i> . 1706.	<i>Joseph Holmes, D.D.</i> . 1830.

An act of parliament was obtained on the 1st June, this year, for making the Leeds and Selby Railway. The company of proprietors, incorporated by this act, were authorised to raise money amongst themselves for the undertaking, not exceeding £210,000. to be divided into shares of £100 each; "and they might also raise an additional sum of £90,000," by way of mortgage. The work was commenced at the beginning of 1831, and the road was opened for passengers on September 22nd, 1834, and for the transit of merchandise on the 15th of December following. The station is in Marsh-lane. This was the *first line* that was opened in connexion with Leeds.—An application was made to parliament during this year, to form a railway between Leeds and Bradford, which failed after considerable expense had been incurred, principally through the opposition of the marchioness of Hertford, through whose property at Holbeck it was intended to carry the railway.

On June 26th, died, at Windsor castle, George IV., aged 68 years. He was born on the 12th of August, 1769, and succeeded his father, George III.

1830

For many years the king had been scarcely ever free from gout; but its attacks had been resisted by the uncommon strength of his constitution. Pains of the eyes, and defective vision, gout in the feet and hands, and lastly, the great malady of his family, dropsy, to which the duke of York, and his sister the queen of Wurtemberg, had fallen victims, befel him. In April, his malady assumed a decisive character, and bulletins began to be issued. In May, a commission was appointed to fix the royal signature; the king signifying his assent by word of mouth. Before his death it was with difficulty he could whisper his verbal affirmative. About a week before he died, the physician delicately announced to him the inevitable catastrophe. "God's will be done!" was the reply. The king's faculties continued unimpaired to the last. On administering to him the last sacrament, the bishop of Chichester reminded him of the duke of Sussex; when the king charged the prelate after his death to carry a message to the duke, saying all his offences were forgotten, and to assure him of his fraternal affection. His majesty's sufferings were very great; during the paroxysms of pain, his moans were heard even by the sentinels on duty in the quadrangle. On the night of the 25th of June, his cough was unusually painful, and about three o'clock in the morning of the 26th he expired, having a few minutes previously faintly ejaculated, "Oh! God, I'm dying," and "*this is death*." In his youth he was eminently handsome, liberally educated, with intellect of a superior order, and great powers of conversation, he justly merited his title of "the most accomplished gentleman in Europe;" and although many actions of his private life deserve censure, as a sovereign, alike in his regency and in his reign, he will ever hold a distinguished place in English history.

June 30th. The largest spot which had been seen on the sun for many years, was observed at eight o'clock on the morning of this day. The diameter subtended an angle of thirty-seven seconds of a degree, and therefore, taking the sun's diameter at 800,000 miles, it extended 23,750 miles in length, and being nearly circular, it covered 443,000,000 square miles of the sun's surface.

July 3rd. The proclamation of king William the fourth's accession to the throne, took place at Leeds in the presence of an immense assemblage of the inhabitants of the town and neighbourhood. At the conclusion of the ceremony,

1830.

the mayor and corporation, the clergy, and the military officers, &c., partook of an excellent cold collation at the Royal hotel, Briggate.——July 10th. William Walker, Esq., of Wilsick, near Doncaster, was thrown from his horse, near his own house, and received so much injury that he only lived about two hours and a half after. The deceased was a barrister-at-law, deputy recorder of Doncaster, and a partner in the firm of Sir W. B. Cooke, Childers, and Co., bankers there. He was born in 1773, and was the second son of William Walker, Esq., of Killingbeck, by Jane, daughter of Samuel Hallawell, Esq., of Newcastle-upon-Tyne, granddaughter of the Rev. William Horsley, A.M., the celebrated author of *Britannia Romana*.——July 15th being the day of his late majesty's funeral, the shops and other places of business in Leeds were closed. The mayor and corporation walked in procession to the parish church, the 10th hussars playing the dead march in Saul.——July 19th. Mr. Hare, surgeon, this day applied to the magistrates of the borough of Leeds, being the quartersessions, for a licence to use Castleton lodge situate in the township of Armley, for the reception and cure of persons afflicted with disorders of the mind. The licence was granted, and visitors appointed according to 9th Geo. IV., c. 40.——July 28th. The 87th annual conference of the Wesleyan Methodists commenced at Leeds.

July 29th. A local paper of this date states, that "About a year ago, the hair of a person named George Wright, 63 years of age, who resides at Beeston, which was then a dark brown, turned completely white: in the course of two months it came entirely off, and in about two months more he had a fresh crop of dark brown hair, which he now wears."——Mrs. Ingle, of Chapeltown, near Leeds, bequeathed the interest of £300 for ever, to the poor widows attending divine worship in the Episcopal chapel at that place, to be distributed on the third Sunday in every month; and £200 in liquidation of the debt owing by the trustees of the Methodist chapel, at Chapel-Allerton.

July. During this month a great sensation was produced in Britain by a revolution which took place in France, the main line of the Bourbon family being expelled, and the crown conferred upon Louis Phillipe, duke of Orleans. In September, an insurrection broke out at Brussels, which ended in the separation of Belgium from Holland.

*County Election.* The death of George IV. and the accession of William IV., caused a general election in the summer of this year. Both lord Milton and Mr. Marshall

1830.

announced their retirement from the representation of Yorkshire: the former, after a term of service of twenty-three years, withdrew, owing to the probability, from his father's great age, that he would soon be called to the House of Lords; and Mr. Marshall retired from feeling himself unable, at his advanced period of life, to sustain the representation of the county, or even to continue in parliament in a time of such high excitement. From similar motives Mr. Fountayne Wilson, one of the tory members, had likewise resolved to withdraw from public life.——July 9th. M. Stapylton, Esq. announced to the freeholders of the county, his intention of soliciting their suffrages at the general election, on the honourable principle of freedom of election, by the freeholders coming to the poll at their own expense. The hon. Wm. Duncombe also announced his intention of again coming forward for the county. On the 23rd of June, a meeting was held at Etridge's hotel, York, for the purpose of inviting two independent gentlemen, of liberal principles, to become candidates to represent the county, when it was resolved to call forward lord Morpeth and Henry Brougham, Esq. On the 21st, Richard Bethell, Esq., of Rise, also declared himself a candidate, having been called upon by a numerous body of freeholders. Thus, there were five candidates in the field. Thursday, August 5th, was the day appointed for the election, when the city of York witnessed a vast influx of freeholders on that morning. The West-Riding, especially the populous clothing district, poured forth an astonishing number of freeholders to the place of election, in vehicles of every kind, from the carriage and four down to the capacious waggon, as well as on horseback, and even on foot. As early as four o'clock, six carriages and four, several chaises, and a great number of gigs and horsemen, together with a stage coach, filled inside and outside with the trustees of the Leeds Cloth halls, set out from the Commercial buildings, in Leeds, and, being joined by vast multitudes on the road, arrived at York in an apparently endless train, before eight o'clock. The several candidates arrived at the castle yard between nine and ten o'clock, on horseback, wearing court dresses. Around the castle yard twenty-one booths were erected for the accommodation of the voters going to poll. When the proceedings commenced, it was calculated that there were upwards of twenty thousand persons present. The high sheriff, the hon. Edward Robert Petre, entered the castle yard in his carriage, at a quarter before ten o'clock,

1830.

and the usual preliminaries being gone through, Sir William Foulis, bart. proposed the hon. Wm. Duncombe, who was seconded by Mr. Alderman Hall, of Leeds. Sir. J. V. B. Johnstone, bart., proposed lord Morpeth, seconded by Charles Wood, Esq. Richard Bethell, Esq., was proposed by William Beverley, Esq., and seconded by J. S. B. Morritt, Esq.; and Henry Brougham, Esq., was proposed by Daniel Sykes, Esq., M.P., and seconded by William Birkbeck, Esq. As no one came forward to propose Martin Stapylton, Esq., that gentleman proposed himself. After the several candidates had addressed the meeting, the high sheriff put the propositions in the usual way, when there appeared very few hands in favour of Mr. Stapylton; who, however, demanded a poll, which was commenced and kept open till eight in the evening. At a few minutes past ten on the following morning, (Friday), the high sheriff and the candidates appeared on the hustings, when the poll was again opened, and kept open until three o'clock; Mr. Stapylton having absented himself, the high sheriff demanded of each of the candidates if they objected to his making proclamation that the poll should close; the other four candidates by themselves or friends replied, that they did not. He then addressed the freeholders, stating that, if any freeholder was dissatisfied with his peremptorily closing the poll, he was then invited to come forward and he should be heard, and no objection being made by any freeholder, the under sheriff then brought up the result of the poll, which was as follows:—

<i>Lord Morpeth,</i>	...	...	...	...	...	1,464.
<i>Henry Brougham,</i>	...	...	...	...	...	1,295.
<i>Hon. W. Duncombe,</i>	...	...	...	...	...	1,123.
<i>Richard Bethell,</i>	...	...	...	...	...	1,064.
<i>Martin Stapylton,</i>	...	...	...	...	...	94.

The four first gentlemen were of course declared duly elected. One important feature in the above election is, that of the members being returned free of expense, which, in a county so extensive as Yorkshire, had hitherto been attended with almost ruinous consequences.

Aug. 19th. A most melancholy accident occurred on the river Ouse, near York, by which seven persons lost their lives; six of them being members of one family. The particulars of which are as follows:—On the afternoon of that day, the family of Mr. John Rigg, nursery and seedsman, Fishergate, York, consisting of two daughters and four sons, with Miss Robinson, from Ayton, near Scarbro',

1830.

and Mr. Thomas Sellers, of the Falcon inn, left home in the full flow of health and spirits, and went on board a pleasure boat, for a water excursion. The party proceeded up the river, and had been out rather more than an hour, when they came in contact with a keel, which was coming down the river, before the wind, under a press of sail, and the boat being struck on the larboard quarter she immediately swamped, and the whole party was precipitated into the Ouse. Assistance was soon at hand, but only two of the number were saved. A monument to the Rigg family was subsequently erected by public subscription, in the church yard of St. Lawrence, in that city. The tablet bears the following inscription:—

“RAISED BY FRIENDSHIP, IN MEMORY OF FOUR SONS AND TWO DAUGHTERS OF JOHN AND ANN RIGG, OF THIS CITY, VIZ:—ANN GUTHRIE RIGG, AGED 19 YEARS; ELIZA RIGG, AGED 17; THOMAS GORWOOD RIGG, AGED 18; JOHN RIGG, AGED 16; JAMES SMITH RIGG, AGED 7; AND CHARLES RIGG, AGED 6; WHO WERE DROWNED BY THEIR BOAT BEING RUN DOWN ON THE RIVER OUSE, NEAR YORK, AUGUST 19TH, 1830.

*“Mark the brief story of a summer’s day!*

*At noon, youth, health, and beauty launch’d away;*

*Ere eve, death wreck’d the bark, and quench’d their light,*

*Their parents’ home was desolate at night:*

*Each pass’d alone, that gulph no eye can see—*

*They met next moment in Eternity.*

*Friend, kinsman, stranger, dost thou ask me where?*

*Seek God’s right hand, and hope to find them there.”*

It is a singular coincidence that the very day on which the above dreadful accident happened, a similar occurrence took place on the river, near Norwich, where three brothers were drowned in the presence of their parents, who were in another boat upon the spot, and witnessed the dreadful catastrophe, without being able to render assistance. Another boat accident happened at Beal, near Ferrybridge, on Thursday the 29th of this month, when three young men lost their lives. Their boat was carried by the stream over the dam and upset.

From the report of the parliamentary commissioners concerning charities, it appeared that the income arising from the pious use property in the town of Leeds was as follows, viz: property and funded stock belonging to the free grammar school, £1,674 17s. 6d.; ditto for providing clothing for the poor of the parish, £267 17s. 10d.; ditto for repairing the highways, roads, &c., in the parish, £818 15s. 6d.; making a total annual income of £2,761 10s. 10d.

On the 30th of August, St. Peter’s church, Morley, was



consecrated by his grace the archbishop of York. On the 31st of August, the Holy Trinity church, at Idle, was consecrated by the same archbishop. On the 1st September he consecrated the new church at Paddock, in the parish of Huddersfield; and on the same day, the new churches in the townships of Golcar and Lindley, in the same parish. On the 2nd September he consecrated the new churches at Lockwood and Netherthong, in the parish of Almondbury.

In clearing away the rubbish from the interior of the organ screen in York minster, the workmen came to the foundations of an ancient choir. "These walls are six feet eight inches thick, and run from east to west, passing the pillars of the lantern tower; a portion of them having been cut away to admit the bases of those pillars. They are composed of rough granite and coarse sand stone. This discovery proves that the old choir was much longer westward, and narrower from north to south, than the present one. More of the walls have been discovered, tending eastward; they have been traced to a considerable distance, and have been found to return in a cross or transept form to the north and south. It is conjectured with every reason of probability that these walls are the remains of the erection of archbishop Thomas, who rebuilt the choir on a nobler scale in 1070."

Aug. 31st. A public meeting was held at the Leeds Court house, for the purpose of taking into consideration the the propriety of forming a Temperance society. "The objects of which were to advocate the entire suppression of the use of distilled spirits, except when recommended medically, and to check the immoderate use of all other kinds of liquor." The meeting was adjourned to the 9th September following. At the adjourned meeting, Mr. Edward Baines occupied the chair. Mr. Stenson read a report, showing the necessity of a temperance society, and proposed that the following declaration should be signed by every person who became a member of the society:—

"We, whose names are subscribed, believing that intemperance with its attendant evils, is promoted by the prevailing opinions and practices with respect to the use of intoxicating liquors, and that decided means of reformation are indispensable, do voluntarily agree to abstain from the use of distilled spirits ourselves, (except for medicinal purposes), to dissuade others from using them, and by all proper means to discountenance the causes and practices of intemperance. The Rev. James Fawcett proposed, that the words "and from the use of all intoxi-

1830.

cating liquors in public houses" be introduced after the words "Medicinal purposes." The general feeling of the meeting was in favour of the original declaration, and Mr. Fawcett withdrew his amendment. A provisional committee was then appointed. After the lapse of about four years—during which great exertions were made to direct public attention to the evils of intemperance—the principles of total abstinence from all intoxicating liquors began to be advocated, as necessary for the effectual reformation of drunkards, and the accomplishment of the great objects for which the society was established—the cure and prevention of habits of intemperance. A pledge to this effect was then introduced, and from that time until June, 1836, persons could join the society by signing either of the two declarations. At a public meeting in the Music hall, it was then decided to use the teetotal pledge only, as it is now generally designated. This society has been instrumental, under the blessing of God, in reclaiming hundreds of drunkards, and preventing many more from acquiring habits of drinking. The good which it has done can never be fully estimated. The society some time ago purchased the Stone chapel, in St. Peter's-street, which has been converted into a Temperance hall.

Sept. 20th. At the annual meeting of the Leeds Mechanics' Institute, held at the Court-house, Dr. Williamson in the chair, Henry Brougham, Esq., delivered a most eloquent speech.—Sept. 23rd. A public meeting of the inhabitants of the borough of Leeds was held in the Coloured Cloth Hall "To take into consideration the propriety of preparing an address to the throne, and petitions to both houses of parliament, praying for the total abolition of Negro slavery in the British colonies." The address and petitions were agreed to unanimously. Christopher Beckett, Esq.; the mayor, presided, and the meeting was addressed by George Rawson, Esq.; Wm. Hey, Esq.; the Rev. Thos. Scales; the Rev. R. W. Hamilton; lord Morpeth; Henry Brougham, Esq.; James Richardson, Esq.; John Clapham, Esq., the vicar of Leeds, and others.—Sept. 28th. A great public dinner was given at the Commercial buildings, Leeds, to lord Morpeth and Henry Brougham, Esq. in celebration of their return to parliament for the county of York. T. W. Tottie, Esq., presided.—The Halifax literary and philosophical society, with a museum attached, was established in the month of September.

Oct. 8th. Immense sensation was caused in Leeds by the apprehension on a charge of bigamy, of John Stanley, of

1830.

Crimbles lodge, Camp-road, a most respectable wool merchant and broker. It appears that on the 16th of June, 1829, at Knaresbro', Mr. Stanley was married to Ann Daniel, governess to Mr. William Gott's children. On the 7th of October, 1830, a bustling good looking female, attended by her son, aged 22 years, arrived in Leeds from Cumberwell, near London. She brought a letter to a respectable resident, and immediately introduced herself as the wife of Mr. Stanley, whom she married in 1806. She stated also, that she had borne him eleven children, six of whom were living, and the eldest of whom accompanied her. In support of these and other allegations, she produced a regular marriage certificate. Mr. Sowrey, the constable, had charge of the prisoner at Crimbles house, where Mr. Gott and Mr. Barr were taking the usual information in such cases. By some means or other the prisoner was suffered to escape, and was not heard of afterwards.

The new beer act, passed in the 11th George IV., which repealed the duty of 10s. per barrel on ale and porter, both of which are commonly called beer, and which authorized the sale of beer on the premises, the dealer taking out a licence annually, for which he is to pay £2 2s., and a further sum of £2 if the parties brew the liquor, came into operation on the 11th October, 1830.

In the month of October, an ancient British celt (stone battle axe) was found by Mr. Thomas Pitt, of Huddersfield, on the south of the mount and above the Meltimers, near Pike Law, one of the highest points in the interesting and romantic district around Holmfirth. It measures rather more than seven inches in length, and about three inches in breadth at the broadest part. Its weight is 2 lb. 10 oz.; in shape it nearly resembles the common axe used at the present day; the cutting edge is wedge shaped, and about three inches broad on the face; the other end is rounded, and about five and a half inches in circumference.

November. By the event of the French revolution a great impulse was given to the reforming spirit in Britain, and the demands for an improvement of the parliamentary representation became very strong. The consequence was the retirement of the Wellington administration in November, and the formation of a Whig cabinet, headed by earl Grey. The agitations of the time were much increased by a system of nocturnal fire-raising, which spread through the south of England, and caused the destruction of a vast quantity of agricultural produce and machinery, and was

1830.

greatly aggravated by the general distress which prevailed.—Nov. 2nd. The highest tide known for many years occurred at Hull, when there was twenty-nine feet four inches of water at the Humber dock gates.

Nov. 15th. A shocking accident occurred at Stare bridge mill, near Farnley, in the occupation of Messrs. Pawson and Son, cloth manufacturers, by the bursting of the engine boiler. Two of the workmen were killed, and several others seriously injured.—Nov. 22nd. Mr. Brougham's elevation to the woolsack, and a peerage, caused a vacancy for the county of York. On the 7th of December, the election came on in the castle yard at York. Francis Hawksworth Fawkes, Esq. of Farnley, proposed, and John Charles Ramsden, Esq. M.P. for Malton, seconded the nomination of Sir John Johnstone. An elector out of the crowd proposed, and a butcher named John Saville, seconded the nomination of George Strickland. A show of hands was taken which was given in favour of Mr. Strickland. Sir J. Johnstone demanded a poll, which took place the following day, about two o'clock, Mr. Strickland withdrew from the contest. The votes then stood as follows:—

<i>Sir John Johnstone</i> ... ..	331
George Strickland, Esq. ... ..	104

Mr. Stapylton, and Daniel Sykes, Esq., two other candidates had withdrawn previous to the election.

Mr. William Hirst passed the Leeds bankruptcy court.

By the turn out of the cotton spinners in the latter part of this year, in and around Ashton, Dunkinfield, Staley-bridge, &c., fifty mills were at a stand, and about 30,000 work-people out of employment. This led to riot and tumult, which caused the government to issue a proclamation "prohibiting the use of fire-arms and illegal meetings." The usual mode adopted by the rioters was to set fire to property. At the special commission in Hampshire, upwards of 300 persons were tried for arson and other crimes. At several places in the West-Riding of Yorkshire, viz: Barnsley, Leathley near Otley, Baildon, &c., &c., numerous buildings and stacks were set on fire, supposed to be done by incendiaries.—Dec. 20th. William Hey, Esq. having resigned the office of surgeon to the Leeds Infirmary, his son William Hey, jun., was elected in his place.

Dec. 31st. The woollen mill at Woodhouse, near Huddersfield, the property of John Whitacre, Esq., was destroyed by fire. The damage was estimated at £10,000. A fireman named John Hartley, was killed by a fall from a ladder.

1831.

1831. The census of this year showed that the number of inhabited houses in the township of Leeds, was 15,001, and in the borough, 25,456. The houses building in the township was 178; in the borough, 273. The uninhabited houses in the township was 1,064; in the borough, 1,862. The number of males in the township was 34,672; in the borough, 60,473. The number of females in the township was 36,930; in the borough, 62,920. The total population of the township was 71,602; in the borough, 123,393; and the total increase of the population of the borough from 1821, was 39,617, or 47½ per centum.

On the 1st of January a cotton mill at Skipton, belonging to Mr. John Dewhirst, was destroyed by fire; damage about £8,000. This fire was supposed to be the work of an incendiary.——Jan. 12th. The extensive premises of Messrs. Bullman and Son, upholsterers, in Commercial-street, Leeds, then opposite the Leeds library, were destroyed by fire, damage more than £6,000.

Feb. 6th. Died at Hastings, the hon. F. W. Robinson, only son of lord Grantham, in the 21st year of his age. By this death the only son of viscount Goderich, then in his fourth year, became heir presumptive to the earldom of de Grey, the barony of Grantham, and a baronetcy.

Feb. 10th. A public meeting took place at the Coloured Cloth hall, Leeds, John Marshall, Esq., in the chair, to petition parliament in favour of parliamentary and economical reform, and particularly for the grant of the elective franchise to Leeds and other populous places. The following gentlemen took a prominent part in the proceedings, viz.:—Mr. Rawson, Mr. Wailes, barrister-at-law; Mr. John Marshall, jun.; Mr. John Clapham, Mr. S. Clapham, Mr. John Peele Clapham, Mr. Baines, Mr. E. Baines, jun., Mr. Luccock, Mr. Tetley, Mr. John Heaps, and Mr. Richardson. Meetings for similar objects were held about the same time at Wakefield, Halifax, and other places. This petition was presented in March, and was signed by 17,200 persons. The petition prayed for vote by ballot, and triennial parliaments.

Feb. 15th. More than 200 of the weavers in the employ of Messrs. Gott and Sons, Leeds, turned out at this time for an advance of wages, and continued on the strike until the 4th of October, exactly thirty-three weeks from its commencement. Messrs. Gott's met a deputation from the workmen, and after a most frank and amicable discussion, agreed to give the advanced prices which had originally been required, and which amounted to 5d.

1831.

per string on the first eight sets of gears, and a corresponding increase on the other sets, with the customary *Sd.* per web for knotting and cleaning. Between five and six thousand pounds were contributed in the town, for the support of the weavers during the strike. In May, Messrs. Gott's employed some weavers from a distance, this led to serious riots and the workmen had to be conducted to their homes by constables.——St. Patrick's chapel, York-road, Leeds, was founded on the 1st of March, 1831, and opened on the 12th of July, 1832: John Child, Esq. was the architect. It is in the pointed style of the 14th century, and is ornamented with turrets and crosses, and lighted by lancet windows. The small lantern tower in the centre of the roof has five lancet windows, of three lights each. The interior contains a gallery, with richly ornamented panels in front. Opposite the altar a pelican is represented feeding its young, on one side of which is a wheaten sheaf, and on the other a vine branch. The windows contain borders of stained glass, and in the centre light of the triple window is a cross of another coloured glass, over which is represented the holy dove. The other parts of the interior are finished in character with what has already been described. Within this chapel is a monument to the late Dr. Underhill, who was for thirty years priest in Leeds. The cost of erection, including land, amounted to £2,500. The Rev. M. O'Donnell is the priest.

Mar. 1st. Lord John Russell moved for leave to bring a bill into the House of Commons, for amending the representation of the people in England and Wales. He proposed to disfranchise sixty boroughs with a less population in 1821 than 2,000. Forty-seven boroughs with a less population than 4,000 in 1821, were to lose one member. Seven large towns including Leeds, Sheffield, Birmingham, and Manchester, were to have two members each; and twenty other towns, including Wakefield, Halifax, Bradford, and Huddersfield, were to return one member each. London to have eight more representatives. Yorkshire to be divided into three parts, each Riding to send two members. Devonshire, Cumberland, Lancashire, Staffordshire, &c., four members. In cities and boroughs, all who paid a rent of £10 a year, to be entitled to vote. The 40s. freeholders were to be allowed to vote. The franchise was to be extended to copyholders of £10 a year; and leaseholders for twenty-one years, not renewed within two years, and all leaseholders for twenty years, by whom



1831.

property was held of the value of £50. After a spirited debate of seven nights, the bill was read a first time. (March 14th). A division took place on the 22nd March, for the second reading, when it was agreed to by 302, against 301.

On the 19th of April the third reading was lost by 299 against 291. In consequence of this vote, the ministers withdrew the bill, and advised his majesty to dissolve parliament, which he did on the 22nd of April. A general election immediately followed.

On Thursday the 3rd of March, Richard Norton, paymaster's clerk belonging to the 10th Hussars, hanged himself in a bed-room of the Horse and Trumpet inn, Briggate, Leeds. His funeral was appointed to take place in Quarry-hill church yard, on the Sunday afternoon following: and, as he was carried to the grave with the usual military honours, a great concourse of people flocked to the place of interment. The Rev. Mr. Wardle, who officiated, declined reading the burial service over the body, and was in consequence subjected to a great deal of abuse. The body was left in the church all night. On the Monday afternoon, Mr. Wardle again attended at the church in the performance of his clerical duties. There were several corpses to bury; and immense crowds (said to exceed 5,000 persons) again assembled. A party of the 3rd Dragoons was also present. On entering the church yard, he found every part of it filled with agitated spectators: the church was also crammed. Mr. Wardle taking into consideration the excitement of the multitude, and fearing the consequences which a persistence in his refusal to go through the service might occasion, performed it much to the satisfaction of the multitude, who instantly dispersed.

Mar. 10th. A public meeting of the inhabitants of the borough of Leeds was held in the Cloth Hall yard, "To consider the propriety of petitioning in favour of lord John Russell's reform bill." The mayor having declined to call the meeting, John Marshall, jun., Esq., occupied the chair, and the resolutions were passed with a great deal of unanimity.——Mar. 22nd. A county meeting was held in the castle yard, York, for the same purpose.

April 6th. The freedom of the city of York was presented to lord Brougham. After the learned lord had taken the foreman's oaths, R. Davis, town clerk, presented his lordship with a copy of the oaths, engrossed on vellum, and contained in a box made from the wood of the cele-



1831

brated Cowthorpe oak, growing on the estate of the hon. E. R. Petre. The box was five inches long, by three and a half broad, and two inches deep, beautifully mounted with silver gilt both inside and out, and the oak wood brilliantly polished. In the centre of the lid was a square shield, on which was engraved the arms of Lord Brougham, and the following inscription:—"The freedom of the city of York, presented to the Right Hon. Henry Lord Brougham and Vaux, Lord High Chancellor of Great Britain, in testimony of the feelings of admiration and respect entertained by the corporation of York, for the unrivalled talents and undeviating patriotism of that eminent statesman. April, 1831. The Right Honourable Lord Dundas, (third time) mayor."—April 13th. At a meeting of the Leeds conservatives, held at the office of the Leeds Intelligencer, Henry Hall, Esq., in the chair, a declaration was unanimously agreed to, expressing "unequivocal dissent both from the principle and the details of the reform bill brought into parliament by his majesty's ministers." At a meeting of the Leeds corporation, held at the Court-house on the following day, "a petition to the House of Commons against the reform bill, was unanimously adopted."

May 6th. The election of four members of parliament for the county of York, took place in the castle yard, at York. The hon. Sir Edward Vavasour proposed and John Marshall, jun., Esq., seconded the nomination of lord Morpeth; F. H. Fawkes, Esq., proposed and Sir George Cayley seconded Sir John Johnstone; M. Wyvill, Esq., proposed and the Hon. and Rev. William Herbert, rector of Spofforth, seconded John Charles Ramsden, Esq.; Francis Cholmley, Esq., proposed and George Rawson, Esq., seconded George Strickland, Esq. No other candidate being proposed, the high sheriff declared lord Morpeth, Sir J. V. B. Johnstone, John Charles Ramsden, Esq., and George Strickland, Esq., duly elected. The result of the general elections gave the ministers a majority of 369 to 233 in favour of the second reading of the reform bill.

The following is the inscription on a valuable piece of plate presented to T. W. Tottie, Esq., of Leeds, by the representatives for Yorkshire:—

"To Thomas William Tottie, Esq., this cup is presented, as a token of esteem and gratitude, for his services, professionally and friendly, at the general election for the entire county of York, May, 1831, by his obliged and attached friends, Lord Morpeth, Sir John V. B. Johnstone bart., J. C. Ramsden, Esq., and George Strickland, Esq."

May 13th. Died, aged 52 years, Roger Holt Leigh, Esq.,

1831.

of Leeds. He left Leeds on the 3rd inst. to give his vote as a freeman of the borough of Wigan, and was so maltreated by the mob on the 4th, that he died in consequence of the injuries received. His brother, Sir Robert Holt Leigh, bart., of Hindley hall, was also roughly used. The deceased was elected a common council man of Leeds, on the 1st September, 1803. He was one of the patrons of the vicarage of Leeds; a governor of the Leeds free grammar school; a trustee of the charity of pious uses; and president of the committee of the Leeds public library. He was a strenuous supporter of almost every charity in the town. After the interment of Mr. Leigh, his friends immediately started a subscription to erect some memorial of him, the result of which was a monument to his memory by Mr. Westmacott, jun., which was subsequently placed in the Leeds parish church. It is an excellent work of art. The design consists of a delicately white marble five feet statue of the deceased in a sitting posture, in his civic robe, having an open volume in his hand, inscribed "1688." On the tablet beneath the statue is this inscription:—

"SACRED TO THE MEMORY OF ROGER HOLT LEIGH, ESQUIRE, TWENTY-SEVEN YEARS A MEMBER OF THE CORPORATION, AND A STRENUOUS SUPPORTER OF THE INSTITUTIONS OF THE BOROUGH OF LEEDS.

"He was a warm advocate of the established church, an uncompromising defender of the glorious constitution of 1688, a consistent patriot, and a faithful friend. During the general election of the year 1831, whilst engaged in the exercise of his franchise as a Burgess of Wigan, his native place, he was so severely injured by an excited populace, that he died at Hindley hall, the seat of his eldest and only surviving brother, Sir Robert Holt Leigh, bart., May 13th, 1831, aged 52 years. As a memorial of their esteem and admiration of his inflexible public integrity and private worth, his numerous friends have caused this monument to be erected. Mr. Leigh's remains were interred in the family vault at Up Holland Abbey church, in the county of Lancaster."

May 16th. Died, at Halton, near Leeds, Thomas Rollinson, gardener. He was 100 years old on the 27th January, 1831. With the exception of the loss of his eyesight a short time before his death, he had enjoyed uninterrupted good health. He had a perfect recollection of visiting the encampment on Clifford moor, in 1745; and many other events of that period were frequent subjects of his aged narration. He lived to see four generations of his own descendants, who all attended him to his grave. Though humble in life, he adorned his station for more than a century by a life of integrity, sobriety, and industry.

1831.

May 27th. A very violent thunder storm occurred at Leeds. The electric fluid knocked down one of the chimneys of the residence of Mr. Barnard Brown, of Burmantofts, and afterwards passed through the roof to the bell wires, several of which fell to the floor in a state of fusion. The wires acting as conductors, passed through nearly every room in the house, turning the walls at the angles of the wires to the colour of brimstone, interspersed with black, and filling many parts of the apartments with smoke. The persons in the house sustained no injury.

On Sunday, the 5th of June, the body of Thomas Rothery, a dyer, (whose death was occasioned by his having fallen into a dye-pan filled with heated liquor, in the dye-house of Messrs. Scarth and Sons), was interred in the burial ground of the episcopal chapel, at Wortley; and on the Tuesday night following, was stolen from the grave. A Mr. John Hodgson, clerk to Mr. Gaunt, solicitor, was taken into custody for stealing the body, he having had it conveyed to Mr. Gaunt's office, where it was found. He was tried at the Leeds borough sessions, on July 4th, for body stealing; and, after a four hours' patient trial, was found guilty. He was sentenced to be imprisoned in the castle of York for the space of six weeks, and to enter into recognizances to keep the peace for two years; himself in £100, and two sureties of £50 each. After the defendant had been found guilty, he stated "that he was connected with a medical man in the taking of the body, and it was for the purpose of mutually dissecting it. He could not give the name of the medical man without utterly ruining him, and that if he was sent to prison, it would ruin his prospects in life for ever."

June 8th. A society called "The Leeds True Blue Constitutional Association" was formed. The principal speakers were Henry Hall, Esq., the chairman; M. T. Sadler, Esq., M. P.; Ralph Markland, Esq., and the Rev. J. A. Rhodes, of Horsforth hall.——June 13th. A numerous and highly respectable meeting of the inhabitants of Leeds, was held at the Court-house, the mayor in the chair, "to consider the propriety of originating such measures as may contribute to the present and permanent relief of the Irish poor, (in Ireland) who are suffering the most appalling distress from famine and disease." A petition to the House of Commons was agreed to, praying that relief might be granted from the public purse. Besides which, a committee was formed to collect subscriptions from the inhabitants of Leeds. A large sum was soon collected.——June 20th. The foundation stone was

1831.

laid of a new college for the education for the ministry of young men of the Independent denomination of dissenters, at Undercliffe, near Bradford, by John Holland, Esq., of Slead house, near Halifax. A great number of people assembled to witness the ceremony. The Rev. Thomas Scales, of Leeds, commenced the service by reading the Latin inscription upon the plate to be fixed in the stone, and the following literal translation in English:—

“Consecrated to the service of God. This building, preceded by an institution denominated Idle academy, was erected in order that, when its perpetuity has been secured, pious and talented young men may continue to be educated gratuitously, and prepared for the gospel ministry: the first stone of which was laid by John Holland, Esq., one of the treasurers, on the 20th day of June, and the first year of the reign of William the Fourth, 1831.

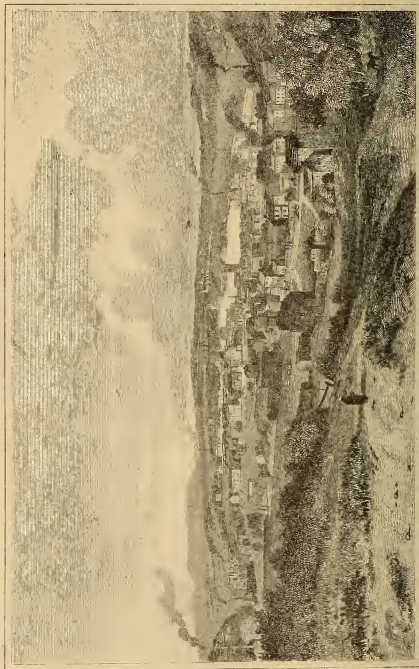
“PRESENT.—Mrs. Mary Bacon, the pious donor of the site and surrounding estate; William Vint, tutor MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE.—MINISTERS: Abraham Clarkson, secretary; Thomas Scales, James Scott, Joseph Stemus Crisp, John White, Henry Bean, James Pridie, William Tiler. LAYMEN: Christopher Anderson, co-treasurer; James Hoatson, John Horsfall, J. Sugden, Joseph Hinchliffe, Robert Milligan, William Baldwin, Edwin Firth, Robert Howitt, John Peele Clapham, James Garnett, John Aked, Thomas Clapham, James Burnley, Samuel Hodgson, and John Clark, architect, on the day when the foundation was laid.”

The Rev. R. W. Hamilton, of Leeds, delivered an address suitable to the occasion. The site of the building and the surrounding estate, to the value of upwards of £3,000, were presented for the purpose by Mrs. Bacon, of Bradford. (For a further account of this college, see page 199 of the ‘Annals.’)

June 24th. Lord John Russell again introduced the reform bill to the House of Commons. The debate on the second reading commenced on Monday, the 4th July, and terminated on the Thursday morning following, at four o’clock. The numbers were, for the second reading, 369; against, 233—majority, 136. The reform bill passed its final stage in the House of Commons on the 22nd September, after a discussion of three nights continuance, by a majority of 109.

After the passing of the reform bill through the House of Commons, meetings were held in various parts of the country to petition the House of Lords in favour of the bill. A meeting for this object was held on the 26th September, in the Cloth Hall yard, in Leeds, John Marshall, Esq., in the chair. On the 8th of October, the House of Peers rejected the reform bill by a majority of 41. On the 12th of October, a county meeting was held at York, at





PUBLISHED BY JOSEPH JOHNSON.

FROM A DRAWING BY  
J. M. W. TURNER  
IN 1831

1831.

which the county members attended, when an address was voted to his majesty in favour of the reform bill. On the news of the rejection of the bill by the peers reaching Derby, Nottingham, Bristol, and other places, dreadful riots occurred, and at the latter place several lives were lost, and a vast amount of property destroyed.

June 29th. The ceremony of opening the Huddersfield and Upper Agbrigg infirmary, the first stone of which was laid on Monday, the 29th of June, 1829, by John Charles Ramsden, Esq., M.P., of Newby park, took place this day, in the presence of a vast concourse of spectators. The infirmary is an elegant and substantially built stone edifice. The principal front is ornamented in the centre by a magnificent portico built in the Grecian Doric style of architecture, supported by four massive pillars, and ascended to by nine steps. The length of the front is 120 feet, and the wings at each end are sixty feet deep. A handsome wall and pallsading incloses a large plot of land surrounding the building. The building is replete with every convenience for carrying out the objects of the charity.

July. The sexton of Dewsbury parish church found an ancient silver coin, in good preservation, in digging a grave on the south side of that edifice. It was a half groat of Edward IV., and as the motto indicated, was coined at Canterbury. The legend when complete has been as follows:—*Obverse*.—EDWARD DI. GRA. REX. ANGL. Z. ERA. *Reverse*.—POSVI DEVMAUDITORE. (Auditorem). MEVM. *Inner circle*.—CIVITAS CANTOR.

July 7th. Mr. William Cobbett was tried in the court o king's bench for publishing a seditious libel inciting the people to arms, in the Weekly Register. The jury, after being locked up fifteen hours, stated that it was impossible for them to be unanimous in their verdict, and were discharged.

July 12th. The roof of Woodchurch, near Dewsbury, fell in with a tremendous crash, and buried the nave, pulpit, pews, &c., in the ruins. On hearing of this misfortune, Mr. Scatcherd, the antiquarian, hastened to the spot, and states, in a letter which subsequently appeared in the Leeds Intelligencer, that:—

“The chancel was uninjured, except as to the arch, dividing it from the nave, which was much shaken. The light now diffused through the chancel roof, enabled the visitor to perceive that its walls were hollow, or rather that they had, at some after period, been lathed and plastered, (or “stoothed,” as the term is), and what was more remarkable, it enabled the antiquary to discover the reason of this alteration.



1831.

Upon the ancient walls, from the ceiling downwards, and from the arch to the eastern wall, some old black letter characters were "dimly visible," in separate compartments, surrounded with antique scrolls or borders. They were all in Latin, but so darkened and concealed were they, by the "stoothing," that the word "Thomas," alone could be made out. In fact, the rotten state both of the roof and ceiling, increased considerably the difficulty of the task. The body of the church being nearly rebuilt, I revisited Woodchurch on February 1st, 1832, and have been repaid for my trouble. The arch before-mentioned it was necessary to take down; and, in putting up a new one, the workmen were compelled to displace some of the lath and plaster of the chancel. Judge my surprise when I perceived a portion only of the ancient interior! It now appears that the whole of these walls (or nearly so) have been beautifully painted and gilded, having on them roses, white and red, tulips, anemonies or poppies, and other flowers; grapes, peaches, and various choice fruits, with leaves and other decorations, the colours of which, even yet, are delightful. For what purpose was all this charming work of art concealed by a casing of lath and plaster? I can solve the question by supposing the black letter characters relate to that which, even by Catholic Harry the 8th, was considered superstitious or idolatrous, and that policy suggested this mode of putting it out of sight; and, certain I am, that nothing short of imperious necessity could have effected an alteration so singular, and, apparently, useless. Burton informs us in his *Monasticon*, that "in the 31st of Henry 8th, the sight of Nostel priory was given to Thomas Leigh, doctor of laws, and one of the king's visitors of religious houses;" and its subordinate cell at "Wodekirke" being evidently destroyed at the same period, it is highly probable that the site of this also, was given to Dr. Leigh. My reason for this belief arises from the name of the Kirk fair, which is still called "LEIGH" or "LEE," "FAIR;" besides the recollection of family connections between the ancient family of Leigh, and those of certain noblemen, now lords of manors in this vicinity. It is certain, however, that the preference of lath and plaster to whitewash, did not answer the expectations of the black canons at "Wodekirke" in the middle of the 15th century."

The name of Woodchurch sufficiently testifies both to its character and antiquity. It designates a very ancient fabric, composed of the usual materials of which even sacred buildings were constructed in remote ages, and devoted at a very early period to the worship of God. Woodchurch was noticed by Leland, who says of it, "At Woodchurch, in Morley Wapentake, near Dewsbury, was a cell of black canons from Nostel, valued at seventeen pounds per annum." Although Woodchurch was however but a cell to the priory, the remaining foundations prove it to have been of considerable comparative extent. The church was conventual as well as parochial; was supposed to be possessed of considerable sanctity, and

1831.

enjoyed a very extensive religious renown. After the falling in of the edifice, Mr. Scatcherd took drawings of the principal objects of interest to the antiquarian, and thus describes them:—

“In the east window of Woodkirk chancel there are five shields of arms in broken painted glass, but so made up from the broken glass of other windows, that little can be gathered from them. There are two birds facing each other, apparently intended for bustards or large hawks; but, as I believe, really intended for eagles. The arms of Soothill, of Soothill hall, were an eagle displayed, argent, and these birds have been argent; but they are not displayed, which causes me to doubt whether Sir John Topcliffe may not have had these birds (if bustards) for his supporters. In one of these shields, on a piece of glass which seems once to have been silvered, is a saint upon a wheel cross in the agonies of martyrdom. A hand appears over his head, which I imagine has belonged to another figure, perhaps to the Roman Lictor. The tower of Woodchurch, which has evidently been rebuilt since the days of the black canons, displays a portion of the zig zag or chevron arch moulding. Its bells, according to tradition, once belonged to Ardsley, but this I doubt for reasons mentioned in my history. [of Morley.] I now come to the most amusing part of my narrative. King Henry I. granted the canons of Nostel the privilege of holding a fair there at the feast of St. Oswald, (August 5th), the two preceding and two following days. In this reign, Woodkirke, as a cell of black canons, was also founded; and it is probable, if not certain, that there was a similar grant of a fair to this convent. This fair, however, which, tradition says, was once held for three weeks, was about the time of St. Bartholomew, September 5th. The fair of St. Oswald, at Nostel, appears to have been suppressed by John de Insula (De Lisle) on account of the riots and disorders with which it was attended. The court roll of the manor of Wakefield gives some curious scenes as occurring at the fair belonging to the canons of Woodkirk. One John, of Newcastle, complained of John de Heton, for an assault and battery, at the same fair, to his damage of 100 shillings; and one William, (the) Carter, complained that the said John had come into his stall at the fair, and had overturned it, by which he lost twenty gallons of beer worth 2s. 4d.; a cask value 12d.; and a sack worth 8d. The covering of his stall was also torn, damage 12d.; and other injuries. Total loss forty shillings—a great sum of money in those days. But I have something still more remarkable to say about Wodekirke, or Leigh fair, which is that on St. Bartholomew's day, the scholars from the grammar schools of Leeds, Wakefield, &c., were brought to this place for disputation, or to ascertain their proficiency in classical learning, annually, down to the early part of last century. When first I gained this information—coming as it did, from very creditable, but uneducated old men, I doubted the truth of their forefather's tradition, but finding that the fair once lasted about three weeks, and that the last day was on St. Bartholomew—the patron or tutelary saint of scholars—reflecting too on the accounts of Stowe, Lilly the astrologer, and others, I am now as sure that these

disputations were at Lee fair as if I had seen them—for how could old labourers and mechanics know anything about St. Bartholomew or the usages on his day? One old man, who died about 1780, and from whom my informant had his account, related that his father, when a boy, was present during a disputation, and had well nigh been knocked on the head by a beadle—for, happening to ask one of the boys who stood up the Latin words for certain articles which I dare not myself put, even in that language, in this place; the gentleman in gold laced robe and cocked hat, applied his truncheon so forcibly to the 'pericranium' of the catechiser, as made him remember his impudence and indecency all his life afterwards. My respectable neighbour and tenant, Mr. Mark Hepworth, an enthusiast in antiquities like myself, from his childhood, had this last narration from two very aged persons, Joseph Bold and Richard Moreby, men of good character, who died above thirty years ago, as appears by the Woodchurch register."

July 13th. During a thunderstorm at Huddersfield, the electric fluid struck the White Lion inn, in Cross Church-street, melted part of the gas pipe, and set the gas on fire. It pursued the course of the bell wires, which it melted, and went out by one of the upper back windows, the glass and woodwork of which was shivered and burnt to pieces. A servant and little boy were knocked down, but soon recovered the shock.—On Saturday, the 30th July, Leeds and its immediate neighbourhood was visited by a thunder storm between two and four o'clock. An immense quantity of rain fell in a very short time. The highways and streets were literally converted into rivers; and in Briggate, some of the market people had no little difficulty in preventing their various articles of sale being contributory to the Aire, the volume of which very soon nearly doubled. The water did much damage to buildings and goods in cellars in various parts of the town.

July 19th. William Payne, Esq., of Shadwell grange, near Leeds, being on a visit to Australia on a farming speculation, was murdered by armed ruffians.

Aug. 15th. An Auxiliary peace society was formed in Leeds, at a meeting held at the Commercial buildings.

Sept. 8th. The celebration of the coronation of their majesties king William IV. and Adelaide his queen, took place this day. At Leeds, the morning was ushered in by the ringing of bells and other demonstrations of a general holiday. About 500 Sunday school teachers of both sexes and all denominations, partook of a public breakfast in the Music hall. About ten o'clock, a procession of the mayor, aldermen, assistants, clergy, staff of the First West York militia, several orders of Odd-

1831.

Fellows, and others, was formed at the Court-house, and proceeded to the parish church, where an appropriate sermon was preached by the vicar, Rev. Richard Fawcett, M.A. About 12 o'clock, the 2nd dragoon guards, or queen's bays, under the command of colonel Hay, the detachment of royal horse artillery, under the command of major Dynely, and the Leeds squadron of the Yorkshire hussars, commanded by captain Beckett assembled on Woodhouse moor, where they went through various evolutions in the presence of at least 20,000 persons. After the ceremonies, the officers proceeded to the Court-house, to meet the mayor, and partook of an elegant light repast which his worship had provided. After the military had left the moor, they were succeeded by the Sunday school children, to the number of nearly 12,000, who sung the hymns appointed for the occasion, and then returned to their respective places of worship to take tea. At two o'clock, the gentlemen composing the Leeds squadron of the Yorkshire hussars, dined together at the Masonic hall, Sternes' buildings. At four o'clock, Mr. W. Russum ascended in his magnificent balloon from the White Cloth Hall yard, to which the public were admitted free. The rejoicings were much marred by the very unfavourable weather, as at times the rain poured down in torrents. The festivities of the day were concluded by a splendid ball in the evening at the Assembly rooms. Nearly all the families of distinction in the town and neighbourhood were present.—Sept. 27th. At a meeting of the Yorkshire philosophical society, at York, in the theatre of the Yorkshire museum, under the presidency of the late earl Fitzwilliam, then viscount Milton, a plan was set forth by the Rev. W. Vernon Harcourt, for the formation of a British association for the promotion of science, the object of which should be to give a stronger impulse and more systematic direction to scientific enquiry; to promote the intercourse of those who cultivate science in different parts of the empire with one another and with foreign philosophers; and to obtain a more general attention to the objects of science, and a removal of any disadvantages of a public kind which impede its progress. The association has since held its meetings annually in different parts of the kingdom:—last year, (1858), at the Leeds Town Hall, under the presidency of professor Owen; and the year 1859, at Aberdeen, under the presidency of Prince Albert.

Oct. 1st. The new church at High Harrogate was consecrated by the bishop of Chester. William Sheepshanks, of Leeds, most liberally presented a clock worth £200, to be placed in the tower of the church.——Oct. 7th. The cholera made its appearance in Hamburgh. On the 7th November, a vessel arrived from that place to Sunderland, and in a very short time more than thirty fatal cases occurred there.

On Friday, the 11th of November, a box arrived at the Bull and Mouth hotel, Leeds, by the duke of Leeds coach, from Manchester, containing the dead bodies of a woman and a child, addressed "To the Rev. Mr. Geneste, Hull, per Selby packet. To be left until called for. Glass, and keep this side up. Nov, 11th." On the Monday previous, the dead body of a young man was found in a box on the Courier coach, at the Rose and Crown inn, Leeds, on its transit to the north. An inquest was held over the body by Mr. Barr, coroner, when the jury returned a verdict that the body was that of Robert Hudson, who hanged himself at East Ardsley, that it was disinterred and found as above-mentioned. Several persons were committed to York on a charge of body-stealing. A regular system of burking was brought to light. In London, two fellows named Bishop and Williams, were executed after making a confession of their guilt.

At the Yorkshire spring assizes in the following year, John Craig Hodgson, (23); John Crabtree Pickering, (25); William Henry Bradley, (19); William Germain (20); and James Norman, (20), of Leeds, were tried on a charge of unlawfully digging up and disinterring from and out of a grave in a church yard at East Ardsley, the body of Robert Hudson. Teale, one of the accomplices, turned king's evidence against the prisoners. They were all found guilty but Pickering, who was acquitted. Hodgson was sentenced to be imprisoned for one year, and find four sureties for good behaviour for two years, in the sum of £50 each, and that he be imprisoned until such sureties were found. Bradley, Germain, and Norman, were each sentenced to be imprisoned three calendar months, and at the end of that time find four sureties each for one year in the sum of £10 each.——Nov. 21st. A proclamation was issued by the king declaring "political unions" illegal and threatening proceedings against parties entering into such combinations.——Nov. 24th. The typhus fever was very prevalent at Bradford. Forty cases existed in Wellington-

1831.-1832.

street alone; at the Ackworth seminary 119 boys and girls were affected by the fever.

Dec. 1st. A meeting of the Leeds, operatives was held at the Court-house, Wm. Hey, Esq., the mayor, presided, for the purpose of raising a subscription in behalf of the poor of the township of Leeds. A meeting was held on the 10th of December, at the Union inn, (now the Albion hotel,) Briggate, to promote a ten or eleven hours' factory bill. Mr. Oastler, of Fixby hall, attended, and was opposed by the late Mr. Baines.

The historian of Morley, Mr. Scatcherd, relates that on returning from Batley on the 20th of December, 1831, he saw for the first time in his life a gipsy hut, at night, with its fire blazing on the right of the road, and about forty or fifty yards below the "Needless" inn, or Cardigan's arms, just by the rivulet which crosses the road on this hill side. He says, "The family consisted of husband, wife, and young daughter, he a tinker and grinder, was exercising his evening vocation as a fiddler, at the "Needless" inn, accompanied by the girl, while his wife, a pretty black eyed woman, (but lost in dirt), was sitting solitary guarding the tent, with her sparklers (over-shadowed with fine black eyelashes) fixed in listless indolence upon the fire. She told me that she was a native of Somersetshire, but that her husband's settlement was at Beverley, in this county; and on my asking if she was not afraid of a storm, and still colder weather, she replied, that a good snow was what she had long wanted, as it would be both more wholesome and pleasant after a good downfall. These gipsies, I have ever observed, are as excellent judges of situation, as were the monastics of the middle ages. If there be one nice sheltered, well watered, dry, and green spot, in a long lane, or by a road side, they are sure to find it. During the summer of 1832, we had four or five camps of gipsies along the top of Morley spring, in Scotsman-lane, and so many people went to see them from all the surrounding villages, that the towns officers were obliged to send them away at a short notice."

1832. Mr. Scatcherd, of Morley, near Leeds, published this year in a compendious form, and at a low price, "Memoirs of the celebrated Eugene Aram, who was executed for the murder of Daniel Clark, in 1759: with some account of his family, and other particulars, collected for the most part thirty years ago." Mr. Scatcherd



1832.

relates the expedients to which he resorted when about ten years of age to obtain information. At High Harrogate he "scraped acquaintance" with old Mr. Hargrave, the publisher of Aram's life. He visited 'crones' and 'cronies,' and listened to narratives of all sorts. "I previously" says he, "found out an old woman who shook hands with Aram in York castle, and knew his family: whose eldest brother was his pupil—whose daughter-in-law lived servant to Daniel Clark's widow fourteen years, and helped to lay her out. I conversed, too, with a man who knew Aram—with another person who lodged at the house of Levi, a jew, (long since forgotten)—and another who helped to draw Eugene Aram up to his gibbet." Mr. Scatcherd, in this work, (which is now very scarce), shows that Aram, whatever may have been his culpability, was much less so than his accusers; and that he had not a fair trial; that, though poor and pennyless, and a child in judicial matters, no member of the legal profession tendered him the slightest aid; and that he was convicted and hung on evidence which would not now induce a jury to give an adverse verdict even on the most trivial charge. Scatcherd's opinion on a subject of this kind is of some weight, for he was a most industrious antiquary, as is shown in his 'History of Morley' and other works.

Jan. 9th. A public meeting was held in the area of the mixed Cloth hall, Leeds, "to petition parliament in favour of the bill for limiting the labour of children employed in factories to ten hours a day for five days, and eight hours on Saturdays." The mayor, Wm. Hey, Esq., occupied the chair. The principal speakers were, the Rev. Richard Fawcett, vicar; the Rev. Richard Winter Hamilton, Mr. Oastler, Mr. Smith, surgeon; C. J. Thackrah, and M. T. Sadler, Esq., M.P. Public meetings shortly after this date were held at Keighley, Bradford, and Dewsbury, for the same object. Mr. Oastler was the principal speaker at these meetings.

Jan. 12th. The celebrated Paganini delighted and astonished a very numerous audience at the Leeds Music hall, by his performance on the violin. A local paper speaks of him and his playing as follows:—"His person is a poem. There is something unearthly about him: he's a man almost without a shadow: but his face is on the whole agreeable, and his smile indicative of great good nature. His performances were—"Preludio e Rondo brillante"; Recitative e tre aria variate," (played on the



1832.

fourth string only); "The admired *Variazioni* upon the popular Neapolitan *canzonetta*," "The Carnival of Venice," descriptive of the freaks and vagaries of a Venitian Carnival," all composed by the Signor. We do not feel ourselves competent to speak of what may be termed his *miracles*: we can admire his delightful harmonies, his cadences, his extraordinary dexterity, the more than musical sound of his fiddle. He can make it squeak, and squall, and laugh, and cry, and nearly speak; he can express mirth and sorrow, tragedy, comedy, or farce. His performance was hailed with unbounded applause; but he declined to obey the cry of *encore*." Paganini was brought before the Leeds audience by Messrs. Sykes and Son, who liberally gave £50 out of the profits to the Leeds poor fund; the Signor gave twenty guineas to the same object.

Feb. A philosophical society was formed at Bramley, near Leeds.——A neat gothic monument was erected in the Wakekeld parish church, 1833, by public subscription, in memory of the Rev. Thomas Rogers, of that town, and bears the following inscription:—

"In memory of the Rev. Thomas Rogers, A.M., formerly of Magdalene college, Cambridge, and thirty-one years Sunday evening lecturer in the church, who died the 13th day of February, 1832, aged 71 years. This monument was erected by public subscription as a tribute of respect for his character, and a record of his long and pious life."

March. The slubbers, spinners, and weavers, in the employ of Messrs. Bruce, Dorrington, and Walker, of Leeds, struck work with a view to resist an intended reduction in the price of their wages, to the amount of 4d. or 6d. per string on the lower description of goods. The strike only lasted about a fortnight, when the masters consented to place the men in the same position as they were before.

April 2nd. At the extremity of the vale of Greenfield, near Huddersfield, a dreadful deed of blood was perpetrated. Both William Bradbury, the occupier of a public house known by the name of Bill o' Jacks, and his son William, were murdered, and no circumstance has since transpired to lead to the conviction of the murderers. The bodies of the unfortunate victims were afterwards interred in Saddleworth church yard.——April 19th. The second reading of the reform bill having passed the House of Lords by the small majority of nine, a meeting of the inhabitants of the borough of Leeds, was held in the area of the Coloured Cloth Hall, John Marshall, jun., Esq., in the

1832.

chair, when it was resolved to present "an address to the king, praying his majesty by the constitutional exercise of the royal prerogative in the creation of peers, to secure the passing of the reform bill in all its efficiency, and thereby prevent a collision between the two houses of parliament."——April 24th. A great county meeting was held in the castle yard, at York, to petition the House of Commons in favour of the ten hours' factory bill, introduced by M. T. Sadler, Esq., and then before a select committee of the House. The principal speakers were, Joseph Wood, of Sandal; J. P. Tempest, of Tong hall; Samuel Smith, surgeon, of Leeds; Richard Oastler; George Strickland, Esq., M.P.; the hon. Wm. Duncombe; M. T. Sadler, Esq., M.P.; Robert Hall, of Leeds; and others.

On the 7th of May, the ministry of lord Grey was defeated in the House of Lords on the question that the enfranchisement schedules of the reform bill should be taken into consideration before those for disfranchisement. The ministry of lord Grey in consequence resigned. A meeting of the inhabitants of Leeds was held on the 14th May, in the area of the Mixed Cloth hall, in pursuance of a requisition originating with "the Leeds Association for promoting within the county of York the free return of fit representatives to parliament," for the purpose of considering the propriety of petitioning the House of Commons not to grant any further supplies until the reform bill had received the royal assent; and also of addressing his majesty to recall to his councils the only administration in which the people have confidence." It is said that about 20,000 persons attended this meeting. George Rawson, Esq., occupied the chair. The principal speakers were, George Wailes, John Marshall, jun., Mr. Richardson, solicitor; John Clapham, and Edward Baines. John Foster, a radical, who attempted to speak, was a great deal jostled by the crowd. Robert Hall attempted to move an amendment to the petition, but was prevented from being heard, and forced off the steps, and had his clothes torn. A local paper (the *Intelligencer*) reports "that after the petitions and address had been adopted by the meeting, Mr. E. Baines, jun., proposed three cheers for earl Grey; three cheers for reform; three groans for the duke of Wellington and three groans for the queen; (Adelaide) three cheers for lord Morpeth; three cheers for lord Brougham; three cheers for the majority of the House of Commons; and three groans for the bishops." On the same day a meeting of the Leeds True Blue Constitutional Association was held at their com-

1832.

mittee room, Henry Hall, Esq., in the chair, "to vote an address to his majesty expressive of our gratitude for his decision in resisting the attempt to invade the constitution, and our full reliance on his wisdom and firmness in every future exigency, with our full determination to support him in the choice of a free and enlightened government." The principal speakers, besides the chairman, were Benjamin Sadler, Lepton Dobson, the Rev. G. S. Bull, Robert Hall, and Edwin Smith. Earl Grey and his colleagues returned to office, and the House of Lords went into committee on the reform bill, commencing with the enfranchisement clause.

May 16th. Between eight and nine o'clock in the evening of this day, a mob of between two and three thousand persons paraded the principal streets in York, with an effigy of the venerable archbishop hoisted on a pole, and afterwards set off to his grace's residence, the palace, at Bishopthorpe. On reaching the palace lodge, they did considerable damage to the clock, and soon forced their way into the park, the gates of which had been closed against them. Having obtained admission, they threw a few stones at the palace windows, by which a few panes were broken, and began to tear up the palisades and young trees, after which they set fire to the effigy. The military having been warned of the affair, came up, and the mob dispersed without doing any further mischief.——23rd. One of the most numerous (said to be at least 100,000 persons present) assemblages ever witnessed in the county of York, took place at Wakefield, under the auspices of the Leeds reform association, and the Leeds political union, to petition parliament in favour of the reform bill, and to move an address to the king asking him to have confidence in the ministry of earl Grey.

*Cholera.*—This year was signalised in the history of England by the visitation of that awful scourge the Asiatic cholera. The full extent of the havoc committed can never be correctly estimated, as a vast number of cases must of necessity have escaped the vigilance of the board of health. The number of cases, however, actually reported to the board of health in England, was, 82,528, of which 31,376 were fatal; the mortality was consequently at the rate of 38 deaths to 100 cases. At the beginning of February, the disease had established itself in London on the one hand, and in Edinburgh, Glasgow, and Paisley on the other. The first case that occurred in Leeds, was on the 26th of May, and the victim was an Irish boy named Dock, about two years old,

residing with his parents in the Blue Bell fold, at the Bank. He was taken ill at five in the morning, and died at three in the afternoon. A child named Tobin died in the same fold the next day, and about eleven others were shortly after attacked in the same yard and its vicinity. The disease then made rapid progress, notwithstanding that every precaution had been taken by the local board of health by the removal of nuisances, &c.

	Cases.	Deaths.	Recoveries.
By the end of June there had been	166	43	71
In July ... ..	427	187	255
„ August ... ..	668	273	372
„ September ... ..	334	123	228
„ October ... ..	216	73	182
„ November 12th ... ..	6	3	7
Total ...	1817	702	1115

Thus, there were in the borough, during the whole period of the disease, 1,817 cases; 702 deaths, and 1,115 recoveries. It appears from a valuable statistical report of the cholera in Leeds, drawn up by Mr. Baker, surgeon, "That the dreadful disease was most prevalent in those parts of the town which were situate in the vicinage of the river, or large water courses. That of 1817, cases reported to the Leeds board of health, 1,448 occurred in the township of Leeds, and 369 in the out-townships. The number of streets, lanes, alleys, and yards, in which the cholera prevailed, amounted to 376, of which 265 were thoroughfares in Leeds only. The cholera commenced on the 26th of May, was at its height in August, (in which month 668 cases were reported, 273 deaths and 372 recoveries) and terminated on the 12th of November. The greatest number of cases in one day, was on the 16th of August, when there were 59 cases and 21 deaths. In fifty-three families, two persons were attacked at the same time; in seven families, three at the same time; in three families, four at the same time; in one family, five were attacked at the same time; and in another family, seven persons were ill of the disease at the same moment: one person was attacked by the disease three times, and recovered; three other persons were attacked twice each, and two of them recovered; but the third died. None of the medical gentlemen had the blue stage of the disease, but many were attacked with symptoms of a permonitory kind, especially those gentlemen who came in closest contact with the sick. One

1832.

nurse at the cholera hospital was attacked with the blue stage, and two with permonitory symptoms. None of the attendants had the disease in the blue stage, and but three had permonitory symptoms." During the whole period of the disease, the attentions of the board of health and the medical gentlemen of the town were most praiseworthy; and great benevolence in providing funds, was shown by a large number of the inhabitants. The establishment of the cholera hospital in St. Peter's square, gave great dissatisfaction to the inhabitants and owners of property in the neighbourhood, who manifested their feelings by breaking the windows of the hospital, and annoying the medical men and others. This place being inadequate, some property at the top of Saxton-lane was purchased for £550, and converted into an hospital. At times great inconvenience was occasioned at some of the churches by the irregular manner in which certain of the persons who died of the cholera were taken to the place of sepulchre. A local paper states, that instances occurred of individuals of the Roman Catholic persuasion, being taken into the church yard by their friends, who sprinkled a quantity of consecrated earth upon the coffin, and then left it to take its chance. Altogether there was a great deal of patience, forbearance, and self-denial shown by all classes of the community during this calamity. The cholera broke out at Goole and Selby so early as the beginning of April, where several fatal cases occurred. It appeared at Dewsbury on the 19th of June, and about the same time at Pontefract, Brotherton and Woodlesford. The number of cases at York up to the 1st of October, was 448; deaths 184, and recoveries 264. Apperley Bridge was visited in an alarming manner from Sunday, the 10th of June, to Wednesday, the 13th, in which time 31 cases occurred, and 10 deaths. The number of cases at Sheffield, up to November 5th, was 1,347; deaths 402, and recoveries 945—among the victims at this place was John Blake, Esq., master cutler, to whose memory an elegant obelisk was erected in 1834 by public subscription. The cholera did not commence at Bradford until the latter end of August, and up to the 19th of September there were 82 cases; 12 deaths, and 37 recoveries. It broke out at Knaresbro' on the 23rd of December, and up to the 10th of January, there were 30 cases; 14 deaths, and 16 recoveries.

June 14th. Mr. William Hirst, of Leeds, published in the Leeds papers an appeal to his Yorkshire friends for pecuniary support, in which he says, that "At the time I began

1832.

the new system of manufacturing and finishing cloth, I was not worth £500; the system itself enabled me in a short time to lay out in mills and machinery upwards of £80,000, and in 1824 I gave up business with a great income, but left all in the concern; but 1825 was the ruin of the concern. I thought I could save it, and in 1826, I mortgaged my property for that purpose, but the new tariff in America, in 1828 blasted all hope." He had to appear in the gazette, and states, that "his life had been a life of struggle and disappointment since 1825." His fellow-townsmen shortly after in public meeting set afoot a subscription for his benefit.—June 15th. The passing of the reform bill was celebrated at Leeds by a public dinner at which John Marshall, jun., Esq., and T. B. Macaulay, Esq., the Whig candidates for the representation of the borough at the forth-coming election were invited. At the meeting after dinner, Mr. Joshua Bower occupied the chair, and the principal speakers were Mr. Macaulay and Mr. Marshall.

On the evening of Tuesday, the 21st of August, the town of Pontefract was for the first time lighted with gas.

Aug. 20th and 21st. A grand cricket match took place at Kirkstall bridge, for £50, between eleven scientific players from Sheffield and twenty-two Yorkshire players. The Sheffield players won by four runs, with nine wickets to go down. The following was the total score:—Sheffield 143; Yorkshire 139—majority, 4.——On Sunday the 26th of August, died of cholera at Bayswater, Dr. Adam Clark, LL.D., an eminent Methodist minister, aged 70. He was born in the north of Ireland about 1762, received no schooling, was eager for knowledge, was placed with a linen manufacturer to learn the trade; being found to possess aptitudes for the christian ministry, was admitted at Mr. Wesley's academy, Kingswood, near Bristol; besides going through the routine studies, taught himself Hebrew, and so laid the foundation of his oriental scholarship; was commissioned by Mr. Wesley himself to become a preacher; first taught near Bradford, in Wiltshire, and became very popular in the pulpit. In 1802 he published a "Bibliographical Dictionary" in six volumes—a convenient book for the English student. About the same time he began to be taken notice of for his acquirements in biblical knowledge and oriental literature. Removing to London, he had superior opportunities for pursuing his studies. He was chosen by the commissioners of the public records to superintend the publication of a new



1832.

edition of Rymer's "Foedera." Besides other publications, he put forth an edition of the Holy Scriptures in the English version, illustrated with a commentary and critical notes, forming a kind of family bible. (1810-26). During a part of the time that he was preparing this useful work, in which traces of independent thinking and moral courage are found, Dr. Clark resided at Millbrook, in Lancashire, where some friends had purchased for him a house and small estate. From 1823, when he left Lancashire, he lived at Haydon hall, in Middlesex. Dr. Clarke was a good, laborious, and self-denying man. His learning was more extensive than sound; but he has the merit of having turned his acquirements to advantage for the instruction and improvement of his fellow men.

On Sunday evening the 7th of October, the Hark Forward Ilkley and Leeds coach, shortly after it started from the Rose and Crown inn, Ilkley, for Leeds, was upset. There were a many passengers on the outside of the coach, many of whom received severe contusions, and a poor woman upwards of 60 years of age, named Hannah Allerton, of Farsley, was so severely injured that she died in a few days. The coachman, John Townsend, was said to be in liquor.

Nov. The Leeds Workhouse board passed a resolution that the poor who died in the workhouse, and whose bodies were not claimed by relatives or friends, should be given for dissection, under the sanction of Mr. Warburton's act.——Nov. 15th. As some workmen were employed in excavating for a drain to pass through Feasegate, York, they discovered at a distance of nine feet below the street, a wall eight feet thick, extending from Jubbergate, along the centre of the street, a distance of fifteen yards, when it appeared to turn towards Coney-street. This wall, which is no doubt of Roman origin, is formed of small stones firmly cemented together, so as to render the whole work a solid mass of adamantine hardness. It required immense labour to detach the pieces, which could only be accomplished by chisels, and that in very small proportions.

REFORM BILL. The year 1832 is memorable for the passing of lord John Russell's reform bill, 2nd William IV., cap. 45, entitled "An act to amend the representation of the people in England and Wales." The debate on the third reading in the house of Commons, terminated at 5 o'clock in the morning of the 23rd of March, and on a division the numbers were:—For the bill, 355, against it,



1832.

239, majority for the third reading, 116. The measure passed the house of lords, (after much opposition) on the 4th of June. The numbers were for the third reading, 106, against it, 22, majority 84, and on the 7th of June it received the royal assent, and became the law of the land. By this act the boroughs of Aldborough, Boroughbridge, and Hedon were disfranchised, and Northallerton and Thirsk lost one member each. Bradford, Leeds, Sheffield, Birmingham, Manchester, Halifax, &c., obtained the right of representation, and to return two members each. Huddersfield, Wakefield, and Whitby to return one. This act declared the electoral district of Leeds to be the "Borough of Leeds," but the parliamentary boundaries act (2nd and 3rd William IV, cap 64,) declares such district to be only the "Parish of Leeds," thereby excluding the hamlets of Coldcoates, Osmondthorpe, Skelton, and Thornes, which although within the *Borough*, are not within the *Parish* of Leeds.

LEEDS ELECTION. On the 4th of Sept. the candidates for the representation of Leeds attended at the Mixed cloth hall to address the electors. Mr. Bower, president of the Leeds political union, introduced Thomas Babington Macaulay, Esq, Mr. George Rawson introduced John Marshall, junr. Esq, and Mr. Hall introduced Michael Thomas Sadler, Esq. After the candidates had addressed the electors, they were questioned as to their political opinions by Messrs. Bower, Smithson, Ward, and Oastler. Several meetings were subsequently held by the candidates and the canvass proceeded with great activity and spirit. The 10th of December was the day of nomination, when both parties mustered in considerable strength. Messrs. Marshall and Macaulay with their friends breakfasted at the Commercial buildings, and Mr. Sadler and his friends at Crossland's hotel. Hustings were erected in the area of the Mixed Cloth Hall, capable of containing five hundred persons; here the candidates appeared with their principal supporters, and twenty thousand persons occupied the space in front. About ten o'clock, the mayor, Thomas Tennant, Esq., opened the proceedings of the day. Henry Hall, Esq., then proposed Michael Thomas Sadler, Esq., and William Beckett, Esq., seconded the nomination. Thomas Benyon, jun., Esq., proposed John Marshall, jun., Esq., and James Musgrave, Esq, seconded the nomination. John Marshall, Esq., the late member for the county, proposed Mr. Macaulay, and George Rawson, Esq., seconded the nomination. When the usual shew of hands was

1832.

called for, the mayor unhesitatingly pronounced it to be in favour of Messrs. Marshall and Macaulay. A poll was then demanded by Mr. Hall for Mr. Sadler, and the mayor appointed it to commence on the ensuing Wednesday morning, the 12th of December. The proceedings on this occasion were interrupted by a disgraceful riot which at one time assumed the most alarming appearance, and in which, as is usual in similar cases, both parties were equally culpable. When Mr. Marshall came forward to propose Mr. Macaulay, some of the blue party placed before him a standard representing a view of Messrs. Marshall's mill, in Water-lane, in a snow storm on a winter's morning, with several poor, decrepid, and half-naked children trudging in a shiveing attitude through the snow; on the picture were painted the words, "A scene in Water-lane, at five o'clock in the morning." The Whig party cried down with the flag, and suiting the action to the word a number of the adherents of Marshall and Macaulay made a rush upon the possessors of the obnoxious banner, and succeeded after a brisk struggle in pulling it down—then commenced a serious conflict between the two parties. The blues made a desperate charge upon their opponents, and a regular battle was fought: sticks, bludgeons, and the broken pieces of the poles of banners were used as the offensive weapons; many persons were thrown down and trampled upon, and others received dreadful cuts on the head and face; a considerable number of the orange party retired for a short time from the yard; and the proceedings were not resumed until a great number of special constables were ordered by the mayor to station themselves in a direct line from the middle of the hustings to the other side of the yard, and thus to form a marked division between the hostile parties. It is sincerely hoped that such a scandalous scene will never again be witnessed in this town. Eleven persons were taken to the infirmary, four of whom were so seriously hurt that they were immediately placed on the list of in-patients.

On Wednesday, the 12th of December, the polling commenced with great vigour and was continued with the same spirit on the following day. The result of the poll, as stated by the mayor on the 14th, in the Mixed Cloth Hall yard, was as follows:—

<i>J. Marshall, jun.</i> ,...	...	...	...	...	W.	2,012.
<i>T. B. Macaulay</i> , ...	...	...	...	...	W.	1,984.
<i>M. T. Sadler</i> ,...	...	...	...	...	T.	1,596.

The split votes were—Marshall and Macaulay, 1,855; Marshall and Sadler, 118; Macaulay and Sadler, 89. Mr. Marshall had 38 plumpers, Mr. Macaulay 39, and Mr. Sadler 1,380.

At a quarter before eleven o'clock on Friday, December 14th, the mayor and a number of the electors executed the indenture of return, and the former terminated the contest by saying, "I have now the pleasure of telling you that the return of two burgesses to parliament is completed, and in your name and in my own, I heartily congratulate the successful candidates, and wish them all health and happiness, and I have no doubt that they will do credit to your choice, and prove active, useful, and independent members of parliament." Messrs. Marshall and Macaulay, lord Morpeth, (who happened to be present), and Mr. Fawkes, of Farnley, then addressed the electors, and thanks were voted by acclamation to the mayor. The members were then chaired in triumph through the principal streets of the town, in the presence of an immense concourse of people, and their return was celebrated by a dinner at the Commercial buildings in the evening.

The registered voters for the borough of Leeds, at the election in 1832, were—in the town 2,614; in the out-townships, 1,936; total, 4550. Registered voters for the West-Riding, resident in Leeds, 809.——The election at Bradford took place on the 19th of December, and resulted in the return of E. C. Lister and John Hardy—the state of the poll being. Lister 650, Hardy 471, George Banks 402. At Halifax, Rawden Briggs and Charles Wood were returned—the result of the poll being, Briggs 242, Wood 235, Michael Stocks 186, J. S. Wortley 174. At Wakefield, Daniel Gaskell was returned without opposition. At Huddersfield, captain L. Fenton was returned—the poll being, Fenton 263, captain Joseph Wood 152.

December. The election of two members for the West-Riding of Yorkshire (in pursuance of the reform bill), took place at Wakefield. Sir Francis Lindley Wood, bart., proposed, and John Nussey, Esq., of Batley, seconded the nomination of Viscount Morpeth; George Rawson, Esq., of Leeds, proposed, and Francis Hawksworth Fawkes, Esq., seconded Sir George Strickland, Esq. No other candidates being proposed, they were duly elected.——Dec. 21st. A public dinner was given to M. T. Sadler, Esq., by his friends, in the Music hall. Henry Hall, Esq., occupied the chair.

Dec. 5th. In compliance with the recommenda-

1832.

tion of the Board of Health, and the injunction of the mayor, this day was observed in Leeds as "a day of solemn thanksgiving to Almighty God, for his merciful interposition in checking the ravages of the fatal disease by which the town had lately been visited." Nearly all the shops and mills in the town were closed, and divine service was performed in most of the churches and chapels.

Dec. 5th. The workpeople of Mr. Abimelech Hainsworth, cloth manufacturer, Farsley, near Bradford, had for some time prior to this date been on strike for an advance of wages: some few of his men who were not members of the Trades' union, refused to leave work, among whom were James Benson, a native of Ireland, about 19 years of age, and his sister a few years younger. On the night above-mentioned, about a quarter past eight o'clock, Benson, accompanied by his sister, left work and proceeded home to Stanningley. In the road a number of men to the number of thirty or forty made an attack upon Benson, and so ill-used him, that he expired at 5 o'clock next morning, from the injuries he had received. Although a large reward was offered for the apprehension of the murderers, they escaped.

December. Messrs. Marshall and Macaulay's electioneering committee presented to Mr. Richardson and Mr. Gaunt, solicitors, two silver salvers, with the following inscription: (Changing the name only in Mr. Gaunt's case.)

"Presented by the election committee of Messrs. Marshall and Macaulay, the first members of the borough of Leeds, under the reform bill, to James Richardson, Esq., solicitor, in grateful testimony of professional services gratuitously, zealously, and most efficiently rendered to the cause of the people."

The committee also presented a testimonial to Mr. Eddison, solicitor, who had accepted payment for only a part of the professional services rendered by him during the election, namely, those performed in the business of revising the register of voters.

The Leeds Choral Society was founded this year by the late Mr. Bywater, who was one of the most talented musicians the county of York ever produced. The members of this society are entirely professional, and have now become celebrated throughout the West-Riding for their excellent oratorical performances. A good collection of music is kept for the use of the members. There is a benevolent fund in connection with this society. Each performing member pays a donation of 2s. 6d., and two-thirds of the contributions paid to he

1832.-1833.

choral society is applied to the fund. Two concerts are also given annually, and applied to the same fund. Conductor, Mr. R. S. Burton, (the festival choral master, and organist, &c., at the parish church); leader, Mr. Bowling.——The Mechanics' Institution, at Bradford, was established this year, for which an appropriate building was erected in 1839, at an expense of £3,300; and contains a theatre for the delivery of lectures, a library of 3,000 volumes, and a museum, in which is a good collection of specimens in natural history, antiquities, various models and machinery; an exhibition, including also a good collection of paintings, was opened to the public in 1840, and the receipts for admission, for fifteen weeks, amounted to £2,345.

1833. A tile tomb was discovered in the year 1833, near Dringhouses, on the road to Tadcaster, formed of roof tiles and ridge tiles, which bear the impress of the VI. Legion, erected, it is probable, over the ashes of a soldier of that legion. (The sixth legion came from Germany into Britain with the emperor Hadrian, A.D., 117). No urn or vessel of any kind, or coins of any description, were found in it; nothing but a layer of the remains of a funeral pile, consisting of charcoal and bones, about six inches in thickness, with several iron nails.——During this year a brick tower was added to St. Mary's church, Hunslet. The church was erected in 1636, and was enlarged to twice its original size in 1744. The benefice is now a vicarage, valued at £235, and is under the patronage of the bishop of Ripon. The Rev. Edward Wilson, B.A., is the vicar.

Jan. The workmen on the Leeds and Selby railway, in digging the excavation diverging from the London and York turnpike, through the tunnel formed by the bridge near South Milford, opened a burial ground, concerning which there is no tradition. In the Doomsday survey, there are four chapelries mentioned as belonging to Sherburn: one of these was on the same line of road, at the extremity of the township, on the way to Barkston Ash, the foundations of which the old inhabitants could recollect, but it is not known where the other three chapelries were situated—this burial ground was probably the cemetery of one of them.

Jan. 4th. As some workmen employed by Mr. Frederick Stowe, of Westfields, Bramley, were removing some earth in a field belonging to him at Pudsey, at the depth of about one foot from the surface, they discovered a

1833.—JAN.

quantity of ancient silver coins, of the reigns of queen Elizabeth, James I., and Charles I., and some others, reign and date unknown. Those of the reign of Elizabeth bear date from 1563 to 1584; and those of James I. from 1604. They were in a high state of preservation.

Jan. 8th. Died, in Butterworth's yard, Kirkgate, Leeds, where she had resided for upwards of sixty years, Elizabeth Wilkinson, aged 93, retaining all her faculties till a short time before her death. She had often been heard to tell of seeing a hedge growing on one side of Marsh-lane, and of the fields coming close up to Kirkgate at the time when she went to live there.

On the same day, died, in London, aged 57, the Rev. Richard Watson, a celebrated Wesleyan preacher. He was extensively known in Yorkshire. His principal literary works were, his *Theological Institutes*, *life of Wesley*, and his *Biblical and Theological Dictionary*.

13th. A young woman aged 21, named Ann Cryer, the wife of William Cryer, excavator, Grantham-street, Bank, Leeds, murdered her infant child, a week old, and afterwards destroyed herself. This unfortunate mother had the milk fever at the time. She lived several days after the occurrence, and the coroner's jury returned a verdict of "Wilful murder" against her. The further proceedings in the matter were rendered unnecessary by her death, and the jury shortly after returned a verdict that "the deceased destroyed herself in a fit of insanity."

21st. The stuff weavers in the employment of Mr. James Green, one of the principal stuff manufacturers of Leeds, struck work in consequence of a dispute between them and the master as to wages ——— Jan. 24th. A public meeting of the inhabitants of the borough of Leeds was held at the Court-house, George Wailes, Esq., in the chair, when it was determined to petition the legislature for an immediate abolition of Colonial slavery. An address to the king embodying the spirit of the resolution, was signed by the chairman on behalf of the meeting. The gentlemen who took a prominent part in the proceedings were, the Rev. Thomas Scales, J. B. Pease, Robert Jowett, William West, the Rev. J. Ackworth, the Rev. R. W. Hamilton, Edward Baines, jun., John Marshall, jun., M.P., the Rev. John Anderson, J. P. Clapham, M. T. Sadler, and Mr. Perring.

26th. On Saturday evening, about seven o'clock, as Thomas Tennant, Esq., the mayor of Leeds, (who had just arrived in the town from an excursion into a neighbouring county), was proceeding up Bank-street, to his residence

1833 — JAN.

in Albion-street, he was attacked by four villians, who seized him behind, stopped his mouth, and threw him down. They took from him a small portable writing desk, in which were thirty-seven £5 notes, of the Boston and Lincolnshire banks, &c, besides some thirty sovereigns and half sovereigns, making together £217, and various letters, memoranda, &c. They also rifled his pockets of an antique silver snuff box, a pair of tortoise-shell spectacles, and a gold watch and chain, the seals of which were broken off during the struggle. By the activity of the police, nine sovereigns and three of the notes were traced to the possession of Elizabeth Brown, to whom they had been sent by the robbers. The writing case was found early on Sunday morning in a field near Brunswick chapel; its apparent contents were gone, but the thieves had over-looked one of the parcels of notes, value £100. The snuff box and spectacles were found near the same place, and the watch was subsequently recovered. William Rollinson, John Pickersgill, Joseph Teale, and Elizabeth Brown, were committed to York for committing or being implicated in the robbery. They were tried on the 7th of March. The jury found Rollinson and Pickersgill guilty of the robbery, and Teale and Brown not guilty, but said in their opinion the latter were guilty of receiving the money, knowing it to have been stolen. Mr. Baron Gurney, in ordering judgment of death to be recorded against Rollinson and Pickersgill, said, "Prisoners, you have been convicted of a capital offence, and your lives are forfeited to the offended laws of your country. If I should be induced to spare your lives, it is the utmost mercy that can be shown; and if they should be spared, let the remainder of them be spent (as they must be spent in a distant country, and in a very miserable condition) in endeavouring to atone for the wickedness of which you have been guilty." Teale and Brown were afterwards tried for receiving the stolen property, and each transported for seven years.

Feb. 6. John Marshall, jun., Esq., M.P. for Leeds, seconded the address in answer to the royal speech.

8th. Died, at Milton house, near Peterborough, the venerable earl Fitzwilliam, in the 85th year of his age. His lordship was succeeded in his title and estates, by lord Milton, M.P. for north Northamptonshire.

14th. The House of Commons, on the recommendation of a sub-committee, decided to allow J. Pease, Esq., a member of the society of Friends, to take his seat on his making an affirmation instead of the usual oath. Lord



1833—FEB.

Morpeth subsequently introduced a bill which became law, "rendering the affirmation of Quakers of the same effect as an oath in all cases where an oath is or may be required."

23rd. The publication of the Leeds Intelligencer was this day altered from Thursday to Saturday.

March 7th. The Leeds Times newspaper was established by Messrs. Fenton, Roebuck, and Bingley, and within a few months of its commencement came into the hands of its present senior proprietor, Mr. Frederick Hobson. By careful management, and able editing, it has attained a very high position as a liberal provincial newspaper, and has gradually increased from a small sheet to its present large size. It has numbered amongst its editors the Rev. Edward Parsons, the lamented Robert Nicoll, Charles Hooton, Samuel Smiles, &c. Its present (1859) weekly circulation is said to be upwards of 11,000 copies, and its advertisements, now numerous, have more than doubled during the last few years.

11th. A meeting of the Leeds operatives was held at the Court-house, to petition parliament in favour of the ten hours' bill. Mr. Smith, surgeon, and Mr. Baker, surgeon, took part in the proceedings; the former advocating a ten hours' bill, and the latter an eleven hours' bill. The petition was presented to the House of Commons by Mr. Strickland, and was said to contain 16,336 signatures, among which were the names of thirty-six surgeons, and its length was 245 feet.

20th. A numerous and very respectable meeting of the inhabitants of the borough of Leeds, was convened by the mayor, (at which his worship took the chair), "to consider the propriety of addressing petitions to the two houses of parliament in favour of the bill for promoting the better observance of the Sabbath." The meeting was addressed by the Rev. R. W. Hamilton, the Vicar, the Rev. Miles Jackson, Mr. Baines, William Hey, Robert Jowitt, and others.——March 22nd. At a court of mayor, aldermen, and assistants, held at the Leeds Court-house, Charles Milner, Esq., barrister-at-law, was unanimously chosen recorder of the borough, *vice* John Hardy Esq., resigned. Mr. Hardy's patent, as recorder, was dated 14th September, 1806, so that the learned gentleman had held the office nearly twenty-seven years.—Francis Maude, Esq., George Wailes, Esq., Thomas Horncastle Marshall, Esq., and Robert Hall, Esq., were appointed by the lord chancellor quorum commissioners under the new bankruptcy act, for the Leeds district.

1833—MARCH.

On the 31st March, three convicts were executed at York, namely, Ebenezer Wright, aged 20, of Rotherham, joiner, for setting fire to two stacks, belonging to Mr. Oxley, solicitor; Thomas Land, aged 25, of Knottingley, for cruelly beating Thomas Atkinson, on the highway near Pontefract; and Mary Hunter, aged 47, (the mother of fourteen children), of Lotherton, near Aberford, for counselling and abetting Hannah Gray, a girl of weak intellect, to set fire to three corn stacks the property of Mr. Marshall, of Lotherton.——Mr. Edward Hauge, of Thornhill, on the evening of the same day, hearing some one tease the dog outside his house, opened the window and fired a pistol, intending to frighten the parties away, and shot a person named Joseph Baxendale, who died from the wounds received. It is said Mr. Hauge made a provision for the widow and family of the deceased.

April 17th. Mr Macaulay presented to the House of Commons six petitions from the Methodist congregations of Leeds, and one from the Baptist congregation of that town, for the abolition of slavery. He also presented a petition from 13,000 inhabitants of Leeds, praying for a reform in the corporation of that borough, which he intended to move, to refer to the select committee sitting on corporations. He also presented from 1,230 of his constituents, a petition for the removal of the disabilities under which the Jews laboured.

28th. Some wretch with great cruelty and utter recklessness, set fire to some farm buildings at Millstone, near Amesbury, belonging to C. Kendall, Esq., by which 400 sheep and 4½ pigs were burnt to death, and 300 quarters of oats and barley, in ricks and in barn, were consumed—loss £2000.

29th. A little after mid-day, a severe hail and thunder storm took place at Leeds and the vicinity, to the West. The electric fluid struck the spire of the new church at Kirkstall, and destroyed it to the depth of fifteen feet, the stones and mortar being thrown to the ground. A very large stone which capped the spire, was shattered to atoms; another block of large dimensions was thrown a considerable distance into an adjoining field; and the whole of the spire was so much injured that it had to be taken down and rebuilt. Some of the fragments forced their way through the church, damaging some of the pews and the organ pipes. The amount of the injury was estimated at from £400 to £500.

1833.

May 1st. A very handsome memorial, subscribed to by many hundreds of his fellow-townsmen, was presented to Mr. Flood, surgeon, of Leeds, for his services during the cholera in the previous year, bearing the following inscription:—

“As a testimony of esteem, this inscription, accompanied with a purse of gold, is presented by those who have abundant cause for deeply felt gratitude to Mr. Flood, surgeon, for his great skill and valuable exertions, in arresting the progress of the dreadful epidemic disease called cholera, by which the town and neighbourhood of Leeds were awfully visited during the year 1832.”

15th. A storm of hail and rain, with thunder and lightning, burst over the greater part of the West-Riding. The principal damage was done to hot-houses by hail-stones: about twenty-six squares of glass were broken in the museum lights at the Leeds philosophical society. The hot-houses of Mr. Hebblethwaite, Woodhouse-lane, Mr. Pontey, Clay Pit lane, Mr. Clapham, and Mr. Coxon, Chapeltown, were much damaged. At Pontefract, the storm was very alarming, and did much damage. It is said that some of the hailstones which fell there measured from four and a half to five inches in circumference, and weighed an ounce. At Keighley, the storm was one of most tremendous ever witnessed by the oldest inhabitants. At Clayton Heights, scarcely a window in any of the houses was left whole. A cabin at the Low moor company, near Bradford, was struck by the lightning and killed a boy named Speak. A poor man, of the name of Armitage, of Lindley, was killed by the electric fluid at Golcar, near Huddersfield. The deceased left a widow and nine children. The thermometer at the Leeds philosophical hall stood at 80° in the shade.

20th. A public meeting convened by the Leeds Anti-slavery Society was held at the Music hall, to consider the government plan of emancipation. George Rawson, Esq., occupied the chair, and speeches were delivered by the Rev. Thomas Scates, the Rev. R. W. Hamilton, Mr. Richardson, solicitor, and others.

The miners at most of the pits in the vicinity of Wakefield, were on strike at this time for an advance of wages.—The influenza was very prevalent at Hunslet, and many cases terminated fatally.

23rd. Died, aged 28, Charles Turner Thackrah, Esq., surgeon, of Leeds, distinguished by an ardent and anxious zeal in his profession, to which he devoted his mind with unremitting assiduity. Mr. Thackrah published several

1833.—MAY.

valuable treatises connected with his profession, which were well calculated to advance medical science and do honour to the memory of the deceased.

25th. A fine lad about five years old, named James Green, the son of Mr. Green, joiner, New-road-end, Leeds, died at the Leeds general infirmary of that terrible disorder hydrophobia. He had been severely bitten by his grandfather's cur dog about six weeks before. This being only the second authenticated case of hydrophobia which had occurred in Leeds for upwards of thirty years, elicited a great deal of attention from the medical men of the town, who rendered to the boy every assistance in their power.

30th. An explosion of fire damp, by which five persons lost their lives, took place in a colliery at Linley top, near Huddersfield, in the occupation of Mr. James Waterhouse, of Linley. The names of the unfortunate persons were, James Waterhouse, the lessee of the pit; Thomas Crossley, of Elland; George Batley, John Tiffany, and Edward Booth, of Lindley.—May. The Leeds carpet weavers were at this time out on the strike owing to a dispute as to wages. Ten of the weavers of Mr. Howard were sent to the House of Correction for leaving their work unfinished. Having completed their term of imprisonment, they were (12th June) escorted through the town by their friends in a coach, accompanied by a band of music. The Leeds stuff weavers and pressers were also on strike, and continued out for a long time. The mayor, during the strike published a caution to the men against intimidation, &c.

June 3rd. Thomas Chorley, Esq., having resigned the office of surgeon to the Leeds general infirmary, which he had held for nearly forty years; at a meeting of the trustees held this day, the following resolution was moved by the Rev. R. Fawcett, A.M., the vicar of Leeds, seconded by G. Rawson, Esq., and passed with general acclamation:—

“Resolved,—That the trustees deeply lament that the declining state of Mr. Chorley's health has induced him to resign the office of surgeon to the infirmary, which he has filled to their entire satisfaction for the long term of nearly forty years. That by the punctual and unwearied discharge of the duties of his office, distinguished alike by great professional skill and humane attention to the comforts of his patients, he has won the admiration and gratitude of the trustees, endeared himself to those who have owed to him, under Divine Providence, their restoration to health and limbs, and furnished a model worthy of imitation by all succeeding officers of the institution. We earnestly pray the Almighty to bless him in his retirement, and prolong his life

1833—JUNE.

to witness the continued success of that charity in which he takes so deep an interest, and to enjoy the gratifying reflection of having largely contributed in his day to the relief of human suffering."

A copy of the above resolution beautifully written on vellum and framed, was presented to Mr. Chorley as a more lasting testimonial of the gratitude of the trustees. On the same day an election for a successor took place at the Court-house. The candidates were—Henry Chorley, Joseph Prince Garlick, and Thomas Pridgin Teale. The votes were taken by ballot, and the following gentlemen officiated as examiners: Mr. Dibb for Mr. Teale; Mr. J. H. Ridsdale for Mr. Garlick; and Mr. Bulmer for Mr. Chorley. The numbers polled were:—

For Mr. Teale,—votes, 200; proxies, 127; total, 327.

„ Mr. Garlick „ 129; „ 103; „ 235.

„ Mr. Chorley „ 56; „ 54; „ 110.

The chairman, Henry Hall, Esq., declared Mr. Teale duly elected.—24th. The election of a surgeon to the Leeds public dispensary in the place of Mr. T. P. Teale, resigned, took place—Mr. Charles Nelson, surgeon, was elected.—26th. At the quarterly board of the Leeds general infirmary, Mr. Baker, surgeon, moved an alteration in the 17th rule, so as to admit of an increase in the number of medical officers of the institution. The motion was negatived by a majority of 245.

July 1st. A large public meeting took place on Wibsey Low moor, near Bradford, "To consider the propriety of petitioning parliament to reject the proposition for limiting the labour of factory children under thirteen years of age to eight hours per day, and two sets, and to pass without delay the ten hours' bill, which extends its merciful restrictions to persons under eighteen years of age, but allows them to work ten hours per day." Captain Wood, of Sandal, occupied the chair, and the meeting was addressed by John Airey, of Leeds; William Busfield, of Bingley; the Rev. G. S. Bull, of Bierley; Mr. Doherty, of Manchester; and Mr. Oastler.

27th. Died, at the advanced age of 94, Phineas Lambert, of Thornhill, weaver. He was a member of the Calvinistic persuasion more than sixty years, and enjoyed an uninterrupted state of health till within a short time of his death. He was father to four generations, viz.:—eleven children, sixty-three grand children seventy-four great grand children, and four great great grand children;

1833—JULY.

in all 152 descendants, of whom the greater part were living and followed him to his grave.

William Wilberforce, an eminent English philanthropist, was born at Hull, August 24th, 1759. His father was a merchant, and gave him an education to prepare him for college. When only 14, Wilberforce wrote a letter to a York paper, "in condemnation of the odious traffic in human flesh." In 1776 he went to Cambridge, where he became acquainted with the celebrated Pitt, with whom he long maintained the closest friendship. He determined to embrace a parliamentary career, and when only 21, was elected member for Hull. In 1784 he was elected member for the county of York, before he had completed his 25th year. But Wilberforce, instead of pursuing a career of ambition, resolved to give his abilities, influence, and energies, to the cause of religion and philanthropy. The sufferings of the unhappy negroes particularly engaged his attention, and to the abolition of the slave trade he devoted his whole heart and soul. For twenty years was he labouring for this object, in parliament and out of it, with his tongue and his pen, working unremittingly, in spite of a weak constitution and very precarious health. At last, in 1807, he saw his wishes accomplished—the abolition bill was passed. He was six times re-elected for the county of York, but in 1812, finding the business of so large a constituency too oppressive, he resigned his seat, and was elected for the borough of Bramber. He now devoted his attention to the abolition of slavery itself, but his health did not permit him to witness this second triumph. He retired from parliament in 1825. He died July 28th, 1833, just as the bill for the abolition of slavery was passing through the House of Commons. He was as estimable in domestic as in public life, and devoted much of his time and income to private charity. Wilberforce was interred with a public funeral in Westminster abbey.

Aug. 1st. A great deal of excitement was caused in York and other places, by one *Hannah Beedham*, who had predicted her own death, which was to take place this day, and to meet which she had retired to Kelfield, a village on the banks of the Ouse, about ten miles from York. By her trances, predictions, and preachings, she had gained great popularity amongst a certain religious body, who flocked in hundreds to the place, eager to be "in at the death." The credulous, however,

1833—Aug.

were doomed to disappointment, for Hannah Beedham lived beyond the day of her predicted death, and severe indeed to many did the disappointment prove, for not only at Kelfield and the neighbouring villages had many provided themselves with new mourning to attend the funeral, which was to have taken place at the church of the Holy Trinity, Goodramgate, York, on the Sunday following; but even some in York had done the like.

7th. The colonial slavery bill was read a third time in the House of Commons, and received the royal assent on the 28th, exactly a month after the death of Mr. Wilberforce, the illustrious leader of the anti-slavery cause.——8th. At a meeting of the inhabitants of the parish of Leeds, held in the parish church, for the purpose of examining and passing the churchwarden's accounts, &c.; amongst several items disallowed by the meeting were: £40 12s. for ringers' salary and oil. The consequence was, that the bells ceased to be rung on Sabbath days and Thursday evenings. The salaries of beadle, vergers, and constable, were also disallowed.

12th. The Hero, Newcastle, and Leeds coach was overturned opposite Low hall, the residence of George Wailes, Esq., between Chapeltown and Leeds, by coming in collision with a cart. There were two passengers inside and ten outside; but only three of them and the guard (Burgoyne) were seriously injured, namely, Mr. Powell, sen., solicitor, of Knaresbro'; Mr. Morley, of Dishforth; and Mr. John Donkersley, of Honley. At the time of the accident the coachman, Sissons, had lost hold of the reins, caused by the pole being snapped in two, and he was jerked off the footboard.——21st. This day took place the ceremony of dedicating the Rev. John Ely, of Rochdale, to the pastoral charge of the church and congregation assembling in Salem chapel, Leeds, as successor to the Rev. Edward Parsons.——21st. Died in Ireland, while on a visit to his estates, Sir Harry James Goodricke, bart., of Ribston hall, Yorkshire. He was the seventh baronet, and only son of the late baronet, by Charlotte Fortescue, sister of the late Viscount Clermont. Sir Harry was never married. He was born on the 16th September, 1797. The baronetcy devolved upon his cousin, Thomas Goodricke, Esq., on whom the Ribston estate was entailed under a family settlement.

On Thursday, August 29th, died at Douglas, Isle of Man, of Asiatic cholera in the 75th year of his age, the Rev. Edward



1833.—Aug.

Parsons, of Leeds. He had preached with much animation on the morning of the previous Sabbath, and died after an illness of only a few hours. He was for forty-eight years the able and popular minister of the Independent church assembling in Salem chapel. He occupied a very distinguished station as a minister of the gospel, and was honoured with extensive usefulness in promoting the interests of religion. His death was justly the subject of deep and general regret.

On Friday, the 30th of August, and Sunday, the 1st of September, the new Wesleyan Methodist chapel, at Woodhouse grove, was opened for public worship. At the close of the services the collection amounted to £142.

Sept. 2nd. Joseph Radcliffe, overlooker at the flax manufactory of Mark Walker, Mabgate, Leeds, was committed to York on a charge of manslaughter, for having caused the death by ill treatment of Samuel Tomlinson, a youth about 14 years of age, the son of William Tomlinson, a cloth dresser, residing in the Jolly Tar yard, Marsh-lane. The funeral of the boy on the Sunday following, at the parish church, drew together an immense concourse of spectators, among whom were 600 factory children. At the spring assizes in the following year, Radcliffe was convicted of manslaughter, and sentenced to one year's imprisonment.—30th. Dr. Thorp, the senior physician to the Leeds general infirmary, having resigned, an election took place this day in the hall of the Leeds Philosophical and Literary Society. The candidates were:—Dr. Richard Hobson, and Dr. Disney Launder Thorp, the son of the retiring physician. The balloting was as follows:—

Dr. Hobson, ... votes, 279; proxies, 153; total, 432.

Dr. D. Thorp, ... „ 143; „ 142; „ 285.

Majority in favour of Dr Hobson, ... 147.

In September, meetings were held at Dewsbury, Huddersfield, and Wakefield, to petition for the removal of the assizes from York to Wakefield.

Oct 3rd. A great meeting was held at York to adopt measures to do honour to the memory of the late Mr. Wilberforce, the archbishop of York in the chair. Lord Morpeth, the lord chancellor, and others took part in the proceedings. A plan for erecting a column at Hull, his native town, was approved of. It was resolved to form a benevolent institution of a useful description in the county, and to put up a tablet to the memory of Mr. Wilberforce;

1833.—Oct.

but if the subscriptions be insufficient for such an object, that they be applied to the erection of a monument. A very highly influential committee was formed to carry out the objects of the meeting.——A public meeting was held at the Court-house, Leeds, on the 11th of November, to further the objects of the Wilberforce memorial. The mayor, Benjamin Sadler, Esq, occupied the chair. The meeting approved of the plan proposed by the committee at York, of founding and maintaining there a Yorkshire school to bear his name, for instructing the indigent blind and educating them in the habits of industry. A committee was formed for the purpose of raising subscriptions and carrying out the objects of the meeting. Meetings were held for a similar object at Huddersfield and other places in the West-Riding. The Yorkshire school for the blind at York, was formed, and the column at Hull, erected, out of the subscriptions raised.

Oct. The Leeds and Whitehall road to Halifax was completed. The whole distance from the White swan, Halifax, to the Exchange, Briggate, Leeds, is fourteen miles 1,622 yards.

18th. Captain Ross landed at Hull in his old ship the *Isabella*, from the polar regions. He sailed in the month of May, 1829. Hull did itself honour on the occasion, by giving the strangers a welcome that must have been gratifying after many privations. Captain Ross, though he spent three winters in and near Prince Regent's inlet, did not reach a higher latitude than about 74 degrees. He discovered that the land near Leopold's island is the north-east point of the American continent; and that the sea to which Regent's inlet leads, is not the great arctic ocean, but a land-locked sea, to which there are various outlets in the direction of Hudson's straits. He ascertained that there is no north-west passage to Behring's straits, south of North Somerset, in 74 degrees of north latitude. Captain Ross had the good fortune to discover the true magnetic pole in latitude 70 degrees, where the needle stood vertical. [It is however to be noted, that the situation of the pole moves on the same parallel at the rate of 11' 49" a year, so that it will again occupy the spot discovered by Ross in the year 3722: in other words, it will complete a revolution in 1890 years.] The British standard was planted on the spot, and the name of king William the fourth formally placed upon record there. The labours and sufferings of the crew almost exceed belief. Their lives were saved by the provisions, stores, and boats, which they found on the spot

1833.—Nov.

where the *Fury* had been wrecked and left by Captain Parry several years before. Two of the winters were exceedingly cold; the thermometer being 92 degrees below the freezing point; yet in this temperature, in a canvass tent covered with congealed snow, without extra clothing, without beds, without any of the requisite comforts, Captain Ross and his gallant followers passed their fourth winter on *Fury* beach, close to the sea!

Nov. 6th. The liberal electors of Leeds gave a public dinner at the Commercial buildings to the representatives of the West-Riding—John Clapham, Esq., presided. Mr. Strickland, one of the West-Riding members, was absent. Lord Morpeth, Mr. Macaulay, and Mr. Marshall took part in the proceedings.——On the following day, at the Court-house, a general meeting of the members, subscribers, and friends of the Leeds mechanics' institution, took place, John Marshall, jun., Esq., M. P., in the chair, relative to the erection of a suitable building for the institution, at which steps were taken for raising funds for the purpose.

11th. The men in the employ of Messrs. Willans and Co., Holbeck, connected with the trades' union, were out on strike. In order to resist the demands of the men, Messrs. Willans engaged from thirty to forty workmen from Pudsey, who were fed and lodged in the works at Holbeck from Monday morning to Saturday night, and by the directions of the magistrates, a party of the Leeds police escorted them home to Pudsey on Saturday nights and back again to Holbeck on Monday mornings. During the escort the men suffered a great deal of annoyance, and in some instances their lives were endangered by crowds of strikers and their sympathers. Four men were fined by the magistrates on Tuesday, November 12th, for assaulting the workmen at Pudsey on the morning previously. Also John Wildman, John Sharp, and John Beaumont, were tried at the Leeds borough sessions in January following, on a charge of riot and assault at Holbeck, on the 16th November. They were each sentenced to hard labour in the House of Correction—Wildman eight months; Sharp five months; and Beaumont two months.

15th. Died of apoplexy, aged 79, Thomas Cookson, Esq., of Portland-place, Hull, a native of Leeds. In the days of colonel Lloyd, the deceased was a zealous volunteer officer, and an individual always respected for his kindness and humanity.

On the 22nd November, died at New Grange, near Leeds, aged 69, Thomas Benyon, Esq., many years a deputy-lieutenant and magistrate for the West-Riding of Yorkshire.

1833—Nov.

27th. Died, aged 72, at his residence, Leventhorpe house, Thomas Ikin, Esq. The deceased was interred in the family vault at Swillington church.

27th. Lewis Fenton, Esq., M.P. for Huddersfield, was killed by a fall from a window of one of the upper stories of his own residence at Spring Grove.——28th. Died, aged 64, very suddenly, at Bradford, William Sharp, Esq., a highly distinguished surgeon, and a gentleman much respected. On the day of the funeral of the deceased, which took place on the 6th December, all the shops in the town of Bradford were closed. He was interred in the family vault in the church of Gildersome.

Dec. 2nd. Died, in his 68th year, John Atkinson, Esq., of Leeds, one of the oldest members of the legal profession in the town.——5th. Died, aged 43, at Chapel-Allerton, near Leeds, whither he had removed for change of air, John Arthington Payne, M.D., of Thorparch, lately one of the physicians of the Leeds infirmary and house of recovery.

Dec. The Leeds New Gas Company was established; having purchased the apparatus, &c. from the Oil Gas Company for £5,300. The works are in Meadow-lane, with gasometer stations at Kirkstall-road and Dewsbury-road. The original capital of the company was £30,000; the present capital, with loans, amounts to about £120,000. The offices of the company are, No. 57, Albion-street. Mr. J. R. Bywater is the manager.

19th. Fortunatus Dwarrris, Esq., one of the commissioners appointed to inquire into the municipal corporations in the north of England, attended at the Court-house, Leeds, for the purpose of prosecuting his inquiries into the constitution of the corporation of that town. Before the commissioner commenced his enquiry, James Nicholson, Esquire, then town-clerk, attended, and read a resolution passed at a court of the mayor, aldermen, and burgesses, protesting against the legality of the commission, and the power of the commissioner to compel the attendance of any member or officer of the corporation before them; but stating, that as the commission had been issued under the king's authority, the corporation of Leeds were disposed to pay all proper respect to it; and in consequence thereof, had directed him to attend and answer the questions put to him on the queries transmitted to the mayor and himself, provided such questions were put by the commissioner only. Mr. Nicholson, replied to the questions put by the commissioner, in which he stated—

“The borough is co-extensive with the parish of Leeds, and the

1833.—DEC.

parish is divided into eleven townships, each of which separately, maintains its own poor: that is to say, Hunslet on the south; Holbeck, Beeston, Wortley, Armley, Farnley, and Bramley, to the westward; Headingley-cum-Burley, Chapel-Allerton, and Potternewton to the north. The ancient borough is the same as the parliamentary borough, as no addition was made by the boundary act. The circumference of the borough is about twenty-two miles, extending eastward about a mile and a half; westward about four miles; northward about three miles and a half; and southward about two miles. It contains about 20,595 acres, and the population according to the census of 1831, was 123,303. The charter by which the borough of Leeds was incorporated, was granted in the 13th year of the reign of king Charles the second. That is now the governing charter; it was a confirmation of the charter of the 2nd Charles the first. The corporation consists of mayor, twelve aldermen, and twenty-four assistants; besides which, there is a recorder, (appointed by the king for life); deputy recorder, town-clerk, (also appointed by the king for life); coroner, and sergeant-at-mace. The police officers are appointed by the mayor and aldermen, acting as justices of the peace. There is a chief constable, a deputy constable, a beadle, and the waits; there used to be three waits, but now there are only two. There is also an assistant beadle. The bell-man is appointed by the lords of the manor. There are no freemen, all the inhabitants are considered as burgesses. The mayor is chosen annually on Michaelmas day, from amongst the aldermen. He holds his office for a year, unless removed for misbehaviour. The aldermen are chosen from the assistants, and the assistants from the burgesses at large, and both are removable for misbehaviour, although elected for life. The elections take place at the Court-house, after three days' notice given by the sergeant-at mace. There must at least be present, the mayor for the time being, four aldermen, and fourteen assistants, or aldermen jointly. At the election of mayor, as well as aldermen and assistants, the persons are proposed and seconded, and it is competent for any member of the corporation present to propose another. The aldermen generally take the office in rotation. All the aldermen are justices of the peace. The coroner and sergeant-at-mace is chosen by the mayor and aldermen only. The chief constable and deputy constable are appointed by the magistrates. The mayor, aldermen, recorder, and deputy recorder, are ex-officio justices of the peace, and as such preside at the quarter sessions. The recorder sits as judge on the right of the mayor: his salary is £21, which is paid by the corporation; and by whom the like sum is paid to the deputy recorder. The mayor, with one or two aldermen, also attend twice a week, to hold a petty sessions for the disposal of parochial business, and such matters as require two justices. One or two magistrates attend the other days in the week, to hear and dispose of such cases as are brought forward by the police and watchmen, and to transact any other incidental business. The mayor and aldermen are also commissioners under the improvement act, 5th Geo. IV. Neither mayor, aldermen, or assistants, have any salary, nor any fees nor emoluments of any kind. The town clerk is clerk of the

1833 — DEC.

peace at the quarter sessions, as well as clerk of indictments. He is also clerk to the magistrates. He attends the courts of mayor, aldermen, and assistants, and takes minutes of their proceedings. His emoluments arise from fees. Quarter session's fees may amount to £150 per annum. As townclerk and clerk to the justices, his net income, after payment of clerks' salaries, printing, and stationery, amounts to about £550. His general law business does not average above £20 a year. The coroner is paid in the usual way, 20s. for each inquisition, and mileage. There are about eighty inquests in the year. The salary of the sergeant-at-mace is £10 a year. He also gets 5s. upon the election of every new officer of the corporation. The chief constable receives only £5 a year from the corporation fund for his attendance; the deputy constable, the beadle, and deputy beadle, £3 16s. each. The waits have nothing but their clothes. The beadle and deputy beadle have annually a suit of clothes at the expense of the corporation. All the inhabitants are exempt from serving on juries out of the borough. The sum of £14 13s. 4d. is paid by every assistant on being elected alderman; and £10 13s. 4d. is paid by every Burgess on being elected assistant, which sums are paid to the treasurer of the corporation. The mayor on being elected, pays only about 25s. The fines imposed by the corporation, are, £400 on every assistant, and £500 on every alderman refusing to take office within ten days after election. £400 on resignation of assistant, or £500 on alderman without consent of corporation, unless he has ceased to reside within the borough for twelve months; or the alderman shall have attained the age of 70 years. £400 for refusing to serve the office of mayor, never having served; £300 for refusal after having served once; £200 for twice; and £100 for every subsequent refusal. In addition to the quarter sessions and petty sessions, the magistrates hold a brewster sessions annually, for granting licenses. There are at present 296 licensed public-houses in the borough. The only property of which the corporation is possessed, is £6,500 three per cent. consols, and £500 lent out at interest; which sums have been derived from fines by its own members for refusal to serve offices. Fines are their only source of income. Their annual income is about £220; the annual payments about £160 for recorders' salaries, mace-bearers salary, clothes to beadles and others, and rents of pews in churches. Various sums have from time to time been contributed by the corporation out of their private fund, for the improvement of the town, and for public purposes. In the year 1790, they gave £500 in aid of the supplies for the defence of the country; in 1806, £400 towards opening a new street from Briggate to Commercial-street; in 1821, £824 2s. 6d. for the rent and fitting up of premises to be used as temporary barracks, for the accommodation of soldiers during a time of popular tumult; and in the year 1826, £257 8s. 3d. towards the commutation of the vicarial tithes of the borough."

At the conclusion of the enquiry, the commissioner asked the opinions of those present as to whether the mode of electing corporate officers was satisfactory to the

1833—DEC.

inhabitants at large, and whether any and what change could be suggested. Mr. Richardson, solicitor, said that in his opinion a large majority of the inhabitants would be favourable to a more open system of election, and Mr. John Clapham expressed an opinion to the same effect. Mr. Bean and Mr. Thomas Fountain expressed an opposite opinion.

25th. Died, Thomas Tennant, Esq., of Leeds, aged 69 years. A tablet in memory of the deceased is placed in the Leeds parish church, and bears the following inscription:—

“In this chancel are interred the remains of Thomas Tennant, Esq., a senior alderman, and for thirty-nine years a member of the corporation; three times mayor, and A.D. 1832, the returning officer at the first election of members of parliament for the borough of Leeds. By energy and impartiality as a magistrate, integrity in the discharge of public trusts, soundness of judgment and affability of manners, he gained the general respect of his fellow-townsmen. An affectionate husband, an indulgent father, a conscientious member of the established church, and a sincere christian; he was justly endeared to his family and friends. Born in London, VIII Oct., MDCCCLXIV; died at Leeds, XXV. Dec., MDCCCXXXIII.”

As a further memorial, near the above is a beautiful stained glass window, in the same church, by O'Connor, of London, representing the descent from the cross, under which are the words, “Behold the Lamb of God.” The incredulity of Thomas, with the words “My Lord and my God.” The re-appearance of Christ to Mary, where she says, “Rabboni.” The upper part has a figure representing the ascension. The window was erected by his surviving children, in the year of grace 1853.

26th. The village of Stillingfleet, near York, was plunged into the deepest affliction by an accident which occurred on the river Ouse this day. The singers connected with the parish church of the village had been out singing, as is usual at Christmas time. They had been to Moorby and Acaster, and were proceeding at half-past four o'clock in a boat to Kelfield. At a place called Mill Mouth, about a quarter of a mile from Acaster, they met a vessel coal-laden coming down the river, hauled by a horse. The party in the boat called out to Stephen Green, the hauling man, to hold the line tight so as to allow them to go under Green, instead of doing this, slackened the rope to let the boat go over it, when one of the men seized the rope and attempted to throw it over the boat: in this he failed, and the line caught the stern of the boat, which, being



1833.—DEC.

thrown on her broadside, instantly filled with water and capsized; and melancholy to relate, out of a party of fourteen, no less than eleven human beings, five men and six young women, were drowned. The following is a list of the sufferers:—Henry Spence, labourer, aged 50, and his two daughters, Sarah, aged 16, and Bessy, aged 15; Christopher Spence, brother to Henry, aged 40; John Turner, carrier, aged 59, and Jane Turner, his daughter, aged 15; Thomas Webster, labourer; William Briston, officiating parish clerk; Sarah Eccles, aged 16; Elizabeth Buckle, aged 15, daughter of Mr. Buckle, innkeeper; and Clarissa Sturdy, aged 17, daughter of Mr. Sturdy, schoolmaster.—27th. Died, aged 100 years, John Steel, of Monkton, near Boroughbridge. He retained his faculties in vigour to the last, and distinctly remembered when a boy, going to see the king's troops encamped on Kirby-hill moor, during the rebellion of 1745; also many other events in the early part of the reign of George the second.

On Tuesday, the 31st of December, Yorkshire and the adjacent counties were visited by one of the most tremendous hurricanes ever remembered. Early in the morning, the rain began to fall, and towards noon the wind blew with great violence from the west and north-west. At Leeds as at other places, stacks of chimneys were blown down, lead and slates forced away, whole windows in many cases blown in, and trees, &c., uprooted. At the residence of Mr. Richard Heaps, plumber, of Headingley-hill top, a chimney fell into the yard; and shortly afterwards, another chimney was blown down, falling upon the roof and through the ceiling, burying the servant girl and the eldest child of Heaps's, about two years old, in the ruins. An infant child of Mrs. Heaps's was knocked out of her arms and so alarmed her, that she jumped out of the window eight or nine feet high, to obtain assistance. The servant girl was found to have her leg broken: the eldest child had her face much bruised, her thigh dislocated, and her leg broken. The infant was unhurt. The chimneys and roofs of two houses in Mount preston were blown off, in the occupation of Mr. Stott and Mr. Brown. The factory chimney of Messrs. Read and Newby, near St. Peter's hill, was blown down, and killed a horse in the stable. A chimney at Mr. Stirk's iron foundry was blown down. The greater portion of Mr. Fairbairn's chimney at West-end was blown down. Woodhouse church, and the residence of Mr. Gilyard Scarth, at Gipton Lodge, were partly unroofed; and the belfry at the Corn Exchange was blown

1834.—JAN.

down. In the neighbourhood, and all the country round, immense damage was done, though the instances of loss of life were very few.

1834. Jan. 1st. The "Factory act" came into operation this day, by which no person under 18 years of age was allowed to work between the hours of half-past eight o'clock in the evening and half-past five in the morning, or be employed more than twelve hours a day, or sixty-nine hours a week: one hour and a half a day being allowed for meals. No child under nine years of age to be employed, except in silk mills. Six months after the passing of the act no child under eleven years of age to work more than forty-eight hours a week, or nine hours a day; nor after eighteen months, any child under twelve years; nor after thirty months, under thirteen years of age. To have holiday on Christmas day and Good Friday, and eight half days in the year, at the pleasure of the master. Besides which, provisions were made for the appointment of inspectors, &c., for the education of the children by the establishment of schools, and the appointment of schoolmasters, &c.

Norrison Scatcherd, Esq., of Morley, addressed a letter bearing date 1st January, 1834, to the editor of the Leeds Intelligencer, and which is inserted in the paper for the 18th January, giving a very interesting account of some local tokens of the tradesmen of the 17th century. He says, "Such is the extreme rarity of these tokens, that, after a search of at least twenty years, I have but been able to collect thirty-one of them, out of which number, four if not five belong to Leeds, one to Halifax, and many to the chief places in their vicinity. You will accept their description in the following order:—

"1st has on its obverse side, "William Docker, of Leeds," who, in an inner circle, is figured with a hare slung upon his back, over a staff which he carries. On the reverse we have "Drawer, his peny, 1670," in the inner circle are two birds like partridges, but apparently fighting like chickens. As this token was struck about a century before the game certificate act was passed, I fancy that Docker must have been a dealer in game, and poulterer; and by a 'drawer,' I infer is meant, *not a cloth*, but a *wire* or *net* drawer; hare hanger, or poacher.

"2nd has on the obverse outer circle, "Ambrose Ambler"; inner circle, (between two tobacco pipes), is something like the grate of an hearthstone, or an implement of a wool-comber; on the reverse, "His Halfpeny"; outer circle, "In Leeds, 1669." The pipes at least, indicate his business.

"3rd, obverse, "John Walker," and three crowns, which I take it was the sign of his public house; reverse, "In Leeds, 1666," "His Halfpeny." This was found in a cellar in Briggate.

1834 — JAN.

"4th has on it, "I pass to and fro for a halfpenny"; reverse, "In Leeds, 1668.", with a shield in the inner circle.

"5th, obverse, "William Fawson"; inner circle, "His halfpenny"; reverse, "In Cloath Faire"; inner circle, "W. F." and three stars, perhaps the sign of his *inn*, or symbol of his faith.

"6th, obverse, "Francis Conyers, of Midlton, in Yorkshire, His halfpenny, 1669"; reverse, "For the use of the Cole pitts", a bird crested, and feathered to the foot, with the beak also of a tumbler pigeon, appears in the inner circle."

The election of a member to serve in parliament for the borough of Huddersfield, in the place of Captain Fenton, commenced on the 6th of January, and terminated on the 9th. At the close of the poll, the numbers were:—for Mr. Blackburne, 234. Mr. M. T. Sadler, 147. Captain Wood, 108.

LEEDS ELECTION, *vice* Mr. Macaulay.—The appointment of Mr. Macaulay to a seat in the council of the governor-general of India, created a vacancy in the representation of Leeds. The appointment was announced to the people of that town on the 30th of November, 1833, and on the 6th of December, a meeting was held of "The Leeds association for the promotion of the return of Liberal members to parliament for the borough of Leeds, and the West-Riding of York," under the presidency of Mr. Marshall, senr., to consider the candidate to be brought forward by the reformers. Several names were mentioned, but no decision was come to on that occasion. It was however decided at a fuller meeting on the 13th, to bring out the late Mr. E. Baines. A requisition in compliance with Mr. Baines' wish was got up, and received in about a fortnight, 1467 signatures, besides a large number of promises from voters who declined to sign. On the presentation of this requisition on the 26th of December, Mr. Baines determined to offer himself. On the 22nd of January, 1834, the conservatives met, and resolved to call forward the Rt. hon. Sir John Beckett, bart.; the eldest member of the family of wealthy bankers in Leeds, and the son-in-law of the earl of Lonsdale. The Radical party amongst the liberals brought out Mr. Joshua Bower, an old and staunch reformer. The electors were addressed by Mr. Baines, in the yard of the coloured cloth hall, on the 31st of December, and by Mr. Bowers, in the free market on the following day. Sir John Beckett addressed the electors on the 28th of January. The nomination was fixed for the 13th of February, when an enormous assemblage (said to have exceeded 40,000 persons) took place on Woodhouse moor. The day was beautifully fine, and the interest excited in

1834.—FEB.

the election was very great. Benjamin Sadler, Esq., mayor was the returning officer. John Gott, Esq., proposed, and Joseph Robert Atkinson, Esq., seconded the nomination of Sir John Beckett. James Garth Marshall, Esq., proposed, and John Clapham, Esq., seconded the nomination of Edward Baines, Esq. Mr. John Heaps, proposed, and Mr. F. E. Bingley, seconded the nomination of Joshua Bower, Esq. After the several candidates had addressed the electors, and being questioned by Mr. Heaps, and others, the mayor called for a show of hands, and declared that Mr. Bowers had the largest show. The supporters of Mr. Baines warmly disputed the correctness of this decision, and contended that Mr. Baines had the majority. A poll was demanded on behalf of Mr. Baines, and Sir John Beckett. Mr. Bowers in returning thanks for the show of hands, said, "Gentlemen, I thank you for the show of hands. Fear not little flock! It will be at the poll, that you have to come up now." Mr. Bowers replied to an operative who said, "Jossey, you had better give it up, and let them have it to them two selves, you will not get in." "No! no; I will not desert my little flock, I will neither placard nor publish at my own expense. I am in the field, and will stop there." The poll commenced on the following day (the 14th) with great spirit. At the close of the first day, Sir John Beckett, according to his own committee, had a majority of 84. The numbers as given by Mr. Baines' committee, were:—Beckett, 1,663, Baines, 1,593, Bowers, 19. The polling was continued on Saturday the 15th, and a more exciting struggle never occurred at an election. At ten o'clock, Mr. Baines was said to have a majority of one, and at one o'clock, a majority of thirty. On the close of the poll, at four o'clock, the numbers were as follow:—

<i>Mr. Baines,</i>	...	...	...	...	W.	1,951.
Sir John Beckett,	...	...	...	...	T.	1,917.
Mr. Bower,	...	...	...	...	R.	24.

Majority for Baines over Sir John Beckett, 34. The mayor declared the result of the poll on the Monday following. On the 17th of February, the friends of Sir John Beckett gave a dinner in his honour, and a similar demonstration was given to Mr. Baines, by his friends, on the 20th of February. On the 6th of March, a splendid hall was given at the assembly rooms, and the music hall, in honour of Sir John Beckett.

Feb. 19th. The foundation stone of St. Peter's chapel, Leeds, was laid this day, (and at the time of its erection,

1834—FEB.

was the largest chapel in England) by the Wesleyan Methodists of Leeds east circuit, and stands on a plot of ground adjoining the first chapel built by that community in this town; and which was opened by the founder of the society, the Rev. John Wesley, in the year 1751. The chapel was opened for public worship in October of the same year. It is a commodious place of worship, and is built of brick. The gallery is continued round the chapel, and contains a good organ. Attached to the chapel is a burial ground, now out of use. Formerly there was a chapel below the present one, which was founded in 1771, and bore the singular title of the "Old Boggard House." The site of it is indicated by an outline of brick-work. The present edifice will accomodate nearly 3,000 persons.

March. There were living at this time in the hamlet of Addle, near Leeds, seven farmers whose united ages amounted to 576 years.——April 2nd. About 4,000 persons attended the election of churchwardens at the Leeds parish church, and the proceedings were conducted with a great deal of uproar and party spirit. The vicar named Mr. Garland as his own churchwarden. The meeting then proceeded to the election of those chosen by the parishioners. Mr. Buttery, a dissenter, and Mr. Perring, a churchman were proposed. and the former had the show of hands. A poll was then demanded by Mr. Perring, which was granted by the vicar. The friends of Mr. Buttery objected to a poll, and decided to proceed with the election by a show of hands. The vicar in consequence vacated the chair. Mr. Baker, surgeon, was then appointed chairman, and the election proceeded. At the annual visitation of the clergy by Archdeacon Markham, on the 18th of June, seven of the churchwardens appointed at the above meeting could not be sworn in, in consequence of a caveat having been entered against their election, namely J. A. Buttery, Richard Reynolds, Luke Marsh, Joseph Bateson, Peter Fairbairn, John Wilkinson, and William Bracewell. In November the court of king's bench granted a rule to show cause why a mandamus should not issue to command a new election of churchwardens.

April. Hannah Roberts died in York castle, while there on a charge of poisoning William Newton, at Hunslet.——April. The poor in Leeds at this time had to endure great privations, and their sufferings were aggravated by a struggle between the associated masters and the operatives trades' union. The former resolved to refuse employment to workmen who would not sign

1834.—APRIL.

a declaration renouncing all connexion with the union; and the latter determined to stand firm by the union. On the 7th of April, about 3,000 of the unemployed workmen assembled on Woodhouse moor, to discuss their grievances. As the struggle was likely to be obstinate, and the consequences severe, most of the men ultimately gave way on the recommendation of their leaders.——7th. A public meeting of the inhabitants of Leeds took place at the Court-house, to petition parliament in favour of election of members of parliament by ballot. James Musgrave occupied the chair. J. G. Marshall, Mr. Gaunt, solicitor, Mr. Richardson, solicitor, Mr. Yewdall, Mr. E. Baines, jun., Mr. Baines, M.P., and Mr. John Marshall, severally spoke in favour of the ballot as a protection to the voter.

June 25th. A highly respectable meeting of the members of the established church, resident in the borough of Leeds, was held at the Court house, to vote an address to the king in acknowledgment of his majesty's recent declaration of attachment to the established church. The mayor, Benjamin Sadler, Esq., occupied the chair, and speeches were delivered by John Gott, Esq., the Rev. the vicar of Leeds. the Rev. Joseph Holmes, Mr. Hey, the Rev. Miles Jackson, T. H. Marshall, Esq., Robert Hall Esq., and others.

July 12th. Ripon and the whole neighbourhood was shaken by a tremendous explosion, occasioned by a convulsion of nature, about a mile from the town, by which the earth had been affected to such a degree as to leave a fissure nearly twenty yards in width, and twenty-four in depth.

On Sunday evening, the 27th of July, a disgraceful fight took place in a field adjoining the Leeds barracks, between two men, one of whom was a soldier. A crowd of people had assembled to witness the fight, and a great deal of excitement prevailed. After the fight was over, some of the soldiers drew their swords and chased several people out of the field. One of the soldiers named Joseph Clibbron, struck with his sword several times, a person named John Beckett, a cloth-dresser at Gott's factory, and residing at Westminster place, new road end, as he was getting over the wall, and inflicted such wounds as to cause his death on the following day. Clibbron was committed to York on a charge of wilful murder. At the spring assizes in the following year, the indictment for wilful murder was ignored by the grand jury, and the prisoner then pleaded guilty to a charge of manslaughter. He was sentenced to



1834.—Aug.

be imprisoned and kept to hard labour in the House of Correction, at Wakefield, for the space of two years.

August 1st. This being the day named in the Slavery abolition act, as that on which slavery was to cease throughout the British empire, the event was commemorated in Leeds, by the various religious bodies as a day of thanksgiving.——1st. The first stone of a commemorative column at Hull, to the honour of Wm. Wilberforce, Esq. was laid by Richard Bethell, Esq., M.P. for the East-Riding of Yorkshire, being the day on which the public labours of Mr. Wilberforce were gloriously consummated by the abolition of slavery in the British dominions.——On Sunday evening, the 3rd of August, between five and seven o'clock, a most awful thunderstorm passed over the borough of Leeds. At Hunslet, near Park-field house, Dewsbury Road, Eliza Emery, a child eight years old, was struck by the lightning and killed, while sitting in a house with three other children, who only received a slight injury.

September. At the beginning of this month, the cholera made its appearance in the Leeds workhouse, four or five of the inmates having been attacked with the disease at the same time; up to the 5th three cases had proved fatal; and in the evening of that day Mr. Rawling, the master of the workhouse was attacked with so much virulence, that he expired on the following day. On Sunday, the 7th, five cases proved fatal, and up to Saturday, the 13th of September, there had been thirty-five cases, out of which number, fourteen had terminated in death.——11th. A special sessions of the justices of the peace for the West-Riding of Yorkshire, was held at the court house, Wakefield, to take into consideration the memorials presented to the magistrates at the last Pontefract sessions from Huddersfield, Pontefract, and other places, recommending that the assizes be removed from York to Wakefield. The Right hon. lord Wharncliffe presided, and fifty-four other magistrates were present. The court decided by forty-seven against seven, not to recommend the removal.

22nd. The Leeds and Selby railway was opened this day.——29th. Dr. William Buckland, professor of geology in the university of Oxford, and M. Agassiz, professor of geology at Neufchatel, and Sir George Head, (author of a journey across the Pampas; Scenes in South America, &c.) visited Leeds, their object being the inspection of the geological specimens in the museum of the Philosophical and literary society. They were much pleased with



1834 — SEPT.

the larger specimens of fossil plants from the coal formation of the district, and more particularly so, with the fine specimens of fossil fish, from the same formation. The largest of these, which was formerly considered a surian, was pronounced by M. Agassiz to be a fish.

30th. A splendid banquet and ball were given at Wentworth house, in commemoration of lord viscount Milton having attained his majority. The festival had been postponed from February, 1833, when the noble viscount came of age, in consequence of the demise of the late venerable earl Fitzwilliam, his grandfather. The preparations for the event were on the most magnificent scale, and everything that ingenuity could devise, or wealth supply, was freely brought forth to grace an entertainment in honour of the heir of the illustrious house of Wentworth. Upwards of a thousand persons were present, embracing the principal nobility and gentry of the county, and persons of distinction from all parts of the country. The noble saloon, sixty feet square, and forty-five feet in elevation, was crowded in every part; and there the dancing was enjoyed. The skilful band of Weippert had been summoned from the metropolis for the occasion, and formed an orchestra worthy of the opera itself. The surrounding recesses of the saloon were filled with raised couches, forming a sort of Turkish divan running round the walls, and being covered with crimson, gave great warmth and richness to the scene. Around, at a height of about twenty-feet, was a projecting gallery with a railed balustrade, forming a balcony that ran around the entire square of the saloon, into which the more respectable of the tenantry of the noble earl's estates were admitted to see the entertainment, and it was completely filled. In the breaks between the lower recesses, and forming an interval therefore between the crimson couches, were convex semicircular flower stands, on which were tastefully arranged rich beds of plants and flowers of every hue; and these again admirably varied with coloured lamps, that seemed like glow-worms shooting out their brilliant lights from beneath the clustered leaves which yet retained the freshness of the dew amid which they were gathered. From the centre of this lofty saloon was suspended an immense outbranching chandelier, filled with a thousand burning lamps; around the cornice and frieze, and beneath the dentated projection of the upper gallery, or projecting balcony, ran along a treble tier of similar lamps; the walls below were covered with gracefully disposed festoons of light, framed of the same

1834—Oct.

description of lamps, and rich gold candelabras; bronzed sinumbras were placed wherever pedestals could be introduced to support them, till the whole became one sea, or flood of brilliance so intense, that it seemed to realise the enchanting scenes of fiction: in short, such a combination of all that is gorgeous in grandeur—all that is sumptuous in hospitality—all that is captivating in beauty—all that is exuberant in enjoyment may not, and ought to be witnessed but rarely.

Oct. 3rd. Died, in the 66th year of his age, Mr. William Butterworth, of Headingley, formerly an engraver in Leeds. Few men lived more respected, or died more regretted. Mr. Butterworth, in early life, had travelled and seen much of the world, as is proved in a work he published, entitled, "Adventures of a Minor"; now scarce.

9th. Mr. Hildyard, the revising barrister of the borough of Leeds, terminated his labours; the court having been open twenty-one days.——16th. The two houses of parliament were destroyed by fire, originating in carelessness on the part of some workmen in over-heating the stoves in the House of Lords. Many valuable things were lost; and among others, the original death-warrant of Charles the first.——26th. During the service in Ebenezer Wesleyan Methodist chapel, Guernsey, a panic seized the congregation: the gas lights had gone out, and a groundless alarm was given that the place was on fire. About a thousand persons were present, most of whom made a rush to the door; some breaking the windows to escape; and the confusion and crush was tremendous. Seven persons were killed, and scores received severe injury.

Nov. Mr. Robert Baker, surgeon, was appointed sub-inspector of factories under Mr. Rickards, in the Leeds district.

Dec. 17th. A most uproarious and protracted meeting took place in the Music hall, Albion-street, Leeds, called by Dr. Warren, of Manchester, who had been expelled the Methodist society by the conference. Mr. Gilyard Scarth attended the meeting to defend the society from the attacks of Warren.

1835. Jan. 1st. The act passed in the last session of parliament for reducing to a regular and uniform system the weights and measures in common use, came into operation this day. In some of the towns and villages in this district, considerable dissatisfaction was manifested on the first enforcement of the provisions of the act; but

1835.—JAN.

this feeling soon disappeared, and all classes subsequently acknowledged the beneficial effects of the change.

5th. GENERAL ELECTION.—On the 29th of December, 1834, the first reformed parliament was dissolved, and a general election ensued. The *Leeds nomination* took place on Woodhouse moor, on the 5th of January, 1835, where from thirty to forty thousand people had assembled. The Whigs and Tories had resolved to fight two candidates with two. The former nominated Edward Baines, and William Brougham, of the chancery bar, brother of the late lord chancellor. The latter brought out Sir John Beckett, (who had been restored to his old office of judge advocate), and Colonel Plumbe Tempest. Baines and Brougham had the largest show of hands. The polling commenced on the 8th and terminated on the 9th. Colonel Tempest withdrew from the contest. At the close of the first day, the numbers polled were: for Sir John Beckett, 1,389; Mr. Baines, 1,304; Mr. W. Brougham, 1,232. The final close of the poll was as follows:—

<i>Sir John Beckett,</i>	... ..	(T.)	1,941.
<i>Edward Baines,</i>	... ..	(W.)	1,803.
<i>William Brougham,</i>	... ..	(W.)	1,665.
<i>Colonel Tempest,</i>	... ..	(T.)	4.

The two former were therefore elected. Sir J. Beckett had 1,791 plumpers; Mr. Baines, 45; and Mr. Brougham, 17. The split votes were, Baines and Brougham, 1,630; Baines and Beckett, 128; Brougham and Beckett, 18; Tempest and Beckett, 4,—3,633 voted.

The election at Bradford resulted in the return of John Hardy and E. C. Lister. The result of the poll was, for Hardy, (T.) 611; Lister, (W.) 589; and George Hadfield, (W.) 392. The election at Halifax gave rise to a contest unparalled for excitement and severity. The candidates were—Charles Wood, the hon. J. S. Wortley, and Edward Protheroe, jun. The two former were elected. The result of the poll was as follows:—Wood, (W.) 333; Wortley, (T.) 308; Protheroe, (W.) 307. The defeat of Mr. Protheroe by a majority of *one*, excited such indignation among his supporters, that at the close of the poll, the town was at the mercy of a large mob armed with all kinds of weapons and missiles, who made an indiscriminate attack upon the dwellings of those who had had the courage to exercise the franchise

1835.—JAN.

as became free and independent men. The outrageous proceedings of the rioters at one period, excited considerable anxiety for the safety of life, but the arrival of a troop of lancers, at seven o'clock in the evening, effected their dispersion, and restored tranquillity. The result of this attempt to enforce "mob law," cost upwards of two thousand pounds: twenty-six parties having recovered damages from the "hundred rates" of Agbrigg and Morley, for the destruction of windows and furniture.

At Wakefield, Daniel Gaskell was returned. The result of the poll was—Gaskell, (R.) 278; the hon. W. S. Lascelles, (T.) 221.——Lord Morpeth and Sir George Strickland were elected for the West-Riding.

8th. A fire broke out in the warehouse of Messrs. Taylor, Son, and Gibson, Albion-street, Leeds, by which property was destroyed to the amount of £10,000.

12th. The heckling shop of Mr. Stirk, flax spinner, York-street, was reduced to a mere shell by fire, and £500 worth of models destroyed.——That beautiful bird, the Bohemian wax-wing, visited Yorkshire in great numbers during the winter. They live on haws, ivy berries. &c., like the field-fare.

On Sunday evening, January 24th, great excitement prevailed in Sheffield, and subsequently riotous acts were committed, for the suppression of which it was necessary to call out the military. The affair arose out of a drunken brawl between a man and his wife, who were employed to take care of the medical school, in Eyre-street. The husband had turned the wife into the street, and she soon raised a crowd with the cry of murder. The police took the husband to prison. At eight o'clock on the following morning, a large number of persons, bent on mischief, assembled in the vicinity of the house, of which they soon had possession. The mob then commenced the destruction of the premises, breaking the frames of the windows, and ejecting into the street every article of furniture in the house, of which a fire was kindled by the people outside. The building was soon completely gutted—the very staircase and floors being torn up and committed to the flames—everything that would burn was added as fuel to the fire in the street. The efforts of the constables to stay the work of destruction was unavailing; and the military had to be called out before the mischief of the depredators could be suppressed.

Feb 4th. Jonathan Greenwood, weaver, Parkin's-row, Barnsley, after working late, sat by his house fire, and

1835 — FEB.

fell asleep. During his sleep, he fancied that he was still in his workshop, and that his piece (drill) had got on fire; he rose from his chair during this dream, and actually scraped the fire out of the grate with his bare hands. He was at length awaked, but not until he had been dreadfully burnt.——8th. A storm of thunder and lightning, accompanied by hail and wind, prevailed generally throughout Yorkshire. The spire of Linthwaite church was struck and bent out of the perpendicular. Golear church was also struck by the lightning, and two large stones were blown clean out of the spire: one of them fell with such force as to break down several yards of the church yard wall; another fell on the roof, broke through into the body of the church, and fell close to the clerk's desk.——23rd. During a tempestuous wind at Peterborough, a fire broke out in a lodging-house, and almost instantly the flakes were borne by the hurricane on to nearly fifty houses in the neighbourhood which had thatched roofs. A stream of fire seemed to flow along the roofs, and for about a quarter of a mile the houses one after another fell sacrifices to the devouring element. In two hours, sixty-five houses were completely destroyed, and many others partially injured. A great amount of property was lost. Sixty-six families, consisting of 300 individuals, were driven from their homes; one poor woman was burnt to death, and two others were much scorched.

23rd. Leeds and the neighbourhood was also visited by a tremendous gale, which lasted from Sunday night till Monday night. The wind blew with such violence, that it was dangerous for people to walk abroad. The cloth dressing premises of Mr. Laycock, Sheepscar, were blown in by the wind and reduced to a mass of ruins. Two men were killed and three others severely injured. The press shop chimney of Messrs. O. Willans, at Kirkstall, was blown down and fell into the river. The dye-house chimney of Messrs. York and Sheepshanks, West-street, was blown down. It broke through the roof, the first floor of the upper room, and to the ground floor. Three persons were buried in the ruins. The engine chimney of Messrs. Smith and Co., Bowman-lane, was blown down. The chimney at the house of Mr. Harland, Osmondthorpe, fell upon the roof and burst through. A similar accident took place at the house of Dr. Williamson, in Park-place. The workmen of Messrs. Manby and Illingworth, timber merchants, Crown point,

1835.—MARCH.

had left the timber shed for the purpose of watching the rocking of a large chimney. They had only left the shed a few minutes, when it was blown down. The Kendal coach on its route out of Leeds, was blown over near Wellington bridge. At Hunslet, a young man of the name of Hay, had his thigh broken by a gate blowing violently against him. The storm was not exclusively confined to Leeds. It was felt far and wide, and produced both on sea and land a melancholy loss of life, and destruction of property.

March 8th. On Sunday, the 8th of March, as the curate of Keighley church was publishing the banus of marriage of a couple resident in the parish, the mother of one of the parties rose and said, "*I forbid that,*" which very much excited the risible faculties of the congregation.

April. The well-known donkey, named Old Adam, the property of Mr. Carr, of Keighley, died this month. It was in the Carr's family above eighty years, and was fourteen years old when they bought it.

24th. About half-past five o'clock, this morning, a young woman of the name of Jane Shepherd, aged 17, in the service of Mr. Issott, grocer, Briggate, Leeds, got up in her sleep, dressed herself, opened her bed-room window, which was upon the fourth story, and fell out into the yard. Her clothes caught the spikes of some iron railings, which broke the violence of the fall—fortunately she had no bones broken. The girl was one of three children born at a birth, and all out in service.

May 1st. The election of Leeds churchwardens closed this day, after a seven days' poll, with a majority of 3,000 in favour of the old churchwardens, who were *dissenters*. The following is the declaration of the numbers polled for each candidate—those in the first column being elected:—

EAST DIVISION—J. A. Buttery..	4,551	W. M. Maude..	1,625
Lower NORTH-EAST--R. Reynolds	4,539	John Simpson ..	1,624
Upper NORTH-EAST-W. Bracewell	4,543	Thomas Morgan ..	1,616
NORTH-EAST—Peter Fairbairn..	4,539	George Young ..	1,616
HIGHTOWN—Luke Marsh ..	4,546	Jonathan Singleton..	1,615
SOUTH—John Wilkinson ..	4,534	Joseph Chadwick ..	1,621
BRAMLEY—William Musgrave	4,537	John Lister ..	1,606
HEADINGLEY—Thos. Backhouse	4,541	Henry Stooks Smith	1,606

The friends of the Dissenting party after the election, paraded the town with banners, and a band of music, in celebration of their victory.——2nd. Mr. William Atkin-



1835.—MAY.

son of the West-Riding Registry office, Wakefield, was struck blind by the lightning during a thunderstorm.

16th. A West-Riding election took place *vice* lord Morpeth, who was appointed a member of the Whig ministry. The hon. John Stuart Wortley, the eldest son of lord Wharnccliffe, was brought out by the tories, in opposition to lord Morpeth. The result of the poll was as follows:—Lord Morpeth, 9,066. Hon. J. S. Wortley, 6,259. Lord Mexborough, 1. Lord Milton, 1. John Hamilton, 1. John Firth, (of Cumberworth) 1. Joseph Marsden, (of Foulston.) 1. The two last voted for themselves.

July 23rd. The Woodhouse Cemetery was opened this day, for the use of all denominations, and is situated in an elevated and pleasant locality, near to Woodhouse moor, a mile N.W. from Leeds, and is the property of a company. It occupies ten acres of ground, purchased at a cost of £4,000. About £700 has been expended in laying it out with trees, shrubs, flowers, &c, the whole being enclosed by a high wall. The ground is a gentle acclivity, overlooking the town and the valley of the Aire. There are many beautiful and costly monuments; particularly those erected to the memory of the late Edward Baines, Esq., M.P., the Rev. Dr. R. W. Hamilton, the Rev. John Ely, &c. In the centre stands a neat chapel in the Grecian style of architecture, under which vaults are constructed; the entrance is a beautiful structure in the same style. It is approached from Woodhouse-lane. It was erected from the designs of John Clark, Esq., of Leeds, who obtained the first premium of twenty guineas in 1823. Messrs. Major and Perkin obtained the second premium of ten guineas. The Rev. Edward Brown is registrar and chaplain.

29th, died aged 55 years, Michael Thomas Sadler, Esq., who, though born in Derbyshire, spent the greater part of his life in Leeds. A statue of the deceased, executed by Park of London, is placed in the Leeds parish church, and bears the following inscription:—

“Michael Thomas Sadler, F.R.S, born at Doveridge, in the county of Derby, from early youth an inhabitant of this town. Endowed with great natural talents, a fervid imagination, a feeling heart, and an enquiring mind; he cultivated with success, amidst the distractions of trade the elegancies of polite literature, and the severer study of political and social economy, as exhibited in his works on Ireland and the law of population. The display on various occasions of a copious eloquence peculiarly his own, in defence of the protestant faith, of the rights of humanity, and of the British constitution, secured him, unsought for, a seat in the House of Com-



1835 — AUG.

mons, and he represented the boroughs of Newark and Aldborough in three successive parliaments. He distinguished himself in the senate, as the bold defender of the institutions of his country, and by strenuously advocating measures to secure a legal provision for the poor of Ireland, and for ameliorating the condition of the factory children.

He died at Belfast, July 29th, 1835, aged 55 years. His remains rest in Bullylesson church yard.

By his numerous private and political friends, this monument has been erected, to hand down to posterity the name of a scholar, a patriot, and a practical philanthropist."

August 20th. Between three and four o'clock this morning a very alarming shock of an earthquake was felt at Lancaster. At first a rumble like distant thunder was heard, which was instantly followed by a violent shaking of the doors, windows, and furniture, of all the houses in the district. Considerable alarm was felt by many people, who rose from their beds and ran into the streets in great terror.

24th. During a tremendous thunderstorm, Mr. Thomas Dalby, of the New Inn, Bramley, near Leeds, whilst standing in front of his kitchen fire, with a lighted candle in his hand, surrounded by his family, was struck by the lightning, and died in a few hours after the shock. On the same day an explosion of fire damp occurred at the Osmaidthorpe colliery, one man was severely scorched, and two others slightly burnt.

September 9th. There was a heavy fall of snow at Leeds, and in the neighbourhood, which retarded the progress of the coaches, and delayed the Leeds mail on its way to London several hours.

9th. As the Municipal Corporation Act which became law from this day, abolished the old corporations, it will be interesting to many readers of the "Annals," to have a list of the last corporate body at Leeds, as well as a list of the mayors, from the first charter of Charles I.

### LEEDS CORPORATE BODY, 1834-5.

MAYOR: Griffith Wright. RECORDER: Charles Milner.

DEPUTY RECORDER: John Leycester Adolphus.

ALDERMEN:—Henry Hall, George Banks, Christopher Beckett, William Hey, Benjamin Sadler, Thomas Beckett, Thomas Blayds, Ralph Markland, Rt. William Dinsey Thorp, Richard Bramley, Joseph Robert Atkinson, William Perfect.

ASSISTANTS:—Jonathan Wilks, Joseph Ingham, John G. Updeley, Fountain Brown, Michael Thomas Sadler, Joseph Henry Ridsdale, William Wilks, Joseph Mason Tennant, William Hey, junr. John Wilkinson, Charles Brown, William Waite, Benjamin Holroyd,

1835.

William Osburn, junr., John Upton, William Gott, Thomas Motley, Francis Chorley, Robert Harrison, John Cawood, William Milnes, Thomas Charlesworth, George Hirst.

TOWN CLERK: James Nicholson. CORONER: Robert Barr. CHIEF CONSTABLE: Edward Read. DEPUTY CONSTABLE: James Ingham. SERJEANT AT MACE: George Hanson. CLERK OF THE MARKETS, AND BILLET MASTER: James Fairclough. BEADLE: J. Handley. CAPTAIN OF THE WATCH: Benjamin Wood. GAOLER: James Lancaster TOWN'S CRIER: Benjamin Spencer.

The Mayor's under the first charter of Charles I., were :—

1626 Sir John Savile	1637 Thos. Metcalf	1651 Wm. Marshall
1627 Samuel Casson	1638 John Hodgson	1652 Richard Milner
1628 Robert Benson	1639 Joseph Hillary	1653 John Thwaites
1629 Richard Sykes	1640 Frcs. Jackson	1654 Martin Isles
1630 Thos. Metcalf	1641 John Hodgson	1655 H. Roundhill
1631 Joseph Hillary	1642 Ralph Croft	1656 Mardke Hicke
1632 Benj. Wade	1643 John Dawson	1657 Frcs. Allanson
1633 Frcs. Jackson	1644 Frcs. Allanson	1658 Wm. Fenton
1634 John Harrison	1645 John Thoresby	1659 Wm. Fenton
1635 Samuel Casson	1649 Robert Brooke	1660 Paul Thoresby
1636 Richard Sykes	1650 James Moxon	1661 Thomas Danby

### SECOND CHARTER, 13 CHARLES II., 1661.

1662 John Dawson	1670 Rd. Armytage	1678 Wm. Pickering
1663 Benj. Wade	1671 Thomas Dixon	1679 Jph. Bawmer
1664 Henry Skelton	1672 W. Hutchinson	1680 Henry Skelton
1665 Danl. Foxcroft	1673 Wm. Busfield	1681 Mardke Hicke
1666 Mardke Hicke	1674 Samuel Sykes	1682 Thos. Potter
1667 Ed. Atkinson	1675 Mrtn Headley	1683 Wm. Rooke
1668 Chr. Watkinson	1676 Anthony Wade	1684 Jos. Ibbetson
1669 Godfrey Lawson	1677 J. Killingbeck	

### THIRD CHARTER CHARLES II., 1684.

1684 Gervase Nevile	1686 Wm. Sawyer	1688 T. Kitchingman
1685 Jos. Ibbetson	1687 H. Stanhope	

### CHARTER RESTORED, 1 WILLIAM AND MARY, 1689.

1689 Wm. Massey	1697 Wm. Milner	1705 T. Kitchingman
1690 Michael Idle	1698 Caleb Askwith	1706 Jer. Barstow
1691 John Preston	1699 John Rontree	1707 Rold. Mitchell
1692 Wm. Calverley	1700 Thos. Lasonby	1708 Rold. Mitchell
1693 Thos. Dixon	1701 John Gibson	1709 Henry Iveson
1694 Mardke. Hicke	1702 J. Kitchingman	1710 John Dodgshon
1695 Henry Iveson	1703 Samuel Hey	1711 John Atkinson
1696 John Dodgson	1704 Edmnd. Barker	1712 Wm. Cookson

1835.

1713 Wm. Rooke	1755 Robt. Denison	1795 W Sheepshanks
1714 Solmn. Pollard	1756 Thos. Denison	[afterwards York.
1715 Croft Preston	1757 Walter Wade	1796 Henry Hall
1716 Edward Iveson	1758 Wm. Denison	1797 John Beckett
1717 Thomas Pease	1759 Edmund Lodge	1798 J. Calverley
1718 Benj. Wade	1760 T. Medhurst	1799 Benj. Gott.
1719 Scud. Lazenby	1761 John Blayds	1800 John Brooke
1720 Thos. Brearey	1762 Wm. Wilson	1801 Wm. Cookson
1721 Robt. Denison	1763 Sml. Harper	1802 William Hey
1722 J. Kitchingman	1764 S. Davenport	1803 Thomas Ikin
1723 Edmd. Baker	1765 Joshua Dixon	1804 Wade Brown
1724 Jer. Barstow	1766 James Kenion	1805 John Wilson
1725 Wm. Cookson	1767 Luke Sachwell	1806 R. R. Bramley
1726 Thos. Sawyer	1768 Edward Gray	1807 E. Markland
1727 Simeon Pollard	1769 W. Hutchinson	1808 Thos. Tennant
1728 Edwd. Iveson	1770 Wm. Dawson	1809 Rd. Pullan
1729 John Blayds	1771 Edmund Lodge	1810 Alex. Turner
1730 George Dover	1772 J. Calverley	1811 Chas. Brown
1731 Edwd. Kenion	1773 T. Medhurst	1812 Henry Hall
1732 John Douglas	1774 John Blayds	1813 W. Greenwood
1733 Wm. Fenton	1775 John Beckett	1814 John Brooke
1734 Henry Scott	1776 John Wormald	1815 Whittel York
1735 T. Micklethwait	1777 J. Fountaine	1816 William Prest
1736 John Brook	1778 Gamaliel Lloyd	1817 John Hill
1737 Robt. Denison	1779 J. Micklethwait	1818 George Banks
1738 Wm. Cookson	1780 T. Rea Cole	1819 Chr. Beckett
1739 H. Atkinson	1781 Wm. Smithson	1820 William Hey
1740 Thos. Sawyer	1782 Arthur Ikin	1821 Lepton Dobson
1741 John Snowdon	1783 Wm. Cookson	1822 Benj. Sadler
1742 John Watts	1784 Jer. Dixon	1823 Thos. Tennant
1743 Robt. Smithson	1785 J. Calverley	1824 Chas. Brown
1744 Rd. Horncastle	1786 Jno. Markland,	1825 Henry Hall
1745 Timothy Smith	[afterwards Entwistle	1826 Thos. Beckett
1746 Edwd. Kenion	1787 William Hey	1827 Thos. Blayds
1747 Wm. Fenton	1788 E. Sanderson	1828 R. Markland
1748 Henry Scott	1789 E. Markland	1829 Chr. Beckett
1749 Edward Gray	1790 John Plowes	1830 R. W. D. Thorp
1750 John Firth	1791 Wade Brown	1831 William Hey
1751 Henry Hall	1792 R. R. Bramley	1832 Thos. Tennant
1752 T. Micklethwait	1793 Alex. Turner	1833 Benj. Sadler
1753 Sir H. Ibbetson	1794 John Blayds	1834 Griffith Wright

## RECORDERS.

1626 John Clayton	1711 John Walker	1803 John Hardy
1661 Francis White	1729 Rd. Wilson	1833 Charles Milner
1692 Jas. Blythman	1762 Rd. Wilson	
1707 Rd. Thornton	1776 Samuel Buck	

## TOWN CLERKS.

1626 Frcs. Bellhouse	1702 Henry Adam	1792 Lucs. Nicholson
1661 Geo. Banister	1725 John Lazenby	1812 J. Nicholson
1662 Saml. Brogden	1753 Thos. Atkiuson	
1684 Castilion Morris	1765 T. Barstow, jnr	

## TREASURERS.

1676 Saml. Sykes	1696 Wm. Cottam	1736 Henry Hall
1684 Wm. Sawyer	1701 Jos. Pickersgill	1751 Saml. Howgate
1685 H. Stanhope	1705 Wm. Cookson,	1761 J. Micklethwait
„ Chr. Pawson	[the younger.	1785 E. Sanderson
1687 H. Stanhope	1706 Jer. Dixon	1795 E. Markland
„ Jos. Ibbotson	1709 John Douglas	1811 Chr. Beckett
1688 T. Hardwicke	1718 George Dover	
1689 John Dodgson	1730 J. Wilkinson	

## CORONERS.

1680 Saml. Brogden	1736 Morgan Lowry	1824 Robert Barr
1718 Thos. Simpson	1755 J. Newport	1835 J. Lofthouse
1727 Ed. Brogden	1790 J. Atkinson	

12th. York during this week was more than usually gay and attractive, owing to the long expected three days musical festival. The festival was honoured by the presence of the duchess of Kent, the princess Victoria, and all the *elite* of Yorkshire.

14th. The princess Victoria and her mother the duchess of Kent, arrived at Harewood house, Harewood, on Saturday, Sept. 12th, and remained till the following Monday. On Sunday morning the illustrious guests, accompanied by a number of distinguished visitors, attended divine service at the church, when the late archbishop of York preached the sermon. A vast concourse of persons from Leeds, and the surrounding districts, lined the gravel walk from the house to the church, and the day being beautifully fine, the scene presented was, in truth, one of a very attractive kind. The duchess of Kent walked with the earl of Harewood, and immediately behind were the princess and lady Georgiana Harcourt, daughter of the archbishop of York. They were followed by the duke of Northumberland, the members of the Harewood family, and other personages of distinction. Much curiosity was evinced to catch a glimpse of the future sovereign, who was then a timid, retiring girl, unaccustomed to the presence of such

1835.—Oct.

vast multitudes as she has since encountered in her more exalted sphere. At ten o'clock on the following morning, (the 14th,) the royal party left Harewood, and passed through Leeds, on their way to Wentworth house, the seat of earl Fitzwilliam. The streets throughout were so densely thronged, (it was computed that more than 80,000 persons lined the streets) so that the royal carriage could only proceed at a very limited pace, and at some points of the route, the vehicle was so completely hemmed in by the crowd as to render it impossible for the postilions to proceed. The carriage being closed, the royal occupants were in a great measure secured from the public gaze, and the result was, that numbers of persons attempted to get upon the wheels for the purpose of having what they called a "right look," and an attempt was made to take the horses from the carriage, and draw it into the town. These proceedings are said to have given great offence to the duchess and, in the mind of her illustrious daughter, to have excited no small alarm. The cavalcade, however, passed through the town without the slightest accident, and amidst every manifestation of loyalty.

19th. Messrs. Brown and Andrew's mill, situate in Millgarth street, Leeds, took fire and was burnt down. The damage was estimated at from £12,000 to £15,000.

October 10th. Hunslet was first lighted with gas.

10th Halley's comet whose periodic return is 75 years, made its appearance at this time. It was visible to the naked eye on the 10th Oct., situated near the upper pointer of the Great Bear. The comet appeared not much larger than a star of the first magnitude and much more dim.

28th. One of the most dreadful accidents that ever happened in the borough of Leeds, occurred at the house of Mr. Wood, fire-work manufacturer, situate in Blackburne's yard, Holbeck-lane, by an explosion of a large quantity of gunpowder. Three houses were blown up, and five persons buried in the ruins. The explosion shook the doors and windows of houses in all parts of the town. The shock was distinctly heard and felt at a distance of two miles, and produced the effects of an earthquake. The gas lights in the mills of Messrs. Nussey, and Messrs. Marshall were instantly extinguished, and the large chimney at the latter place vibrated very perceptibly. Several hundred squares were broken in Messrs. Nussey's mill, and some even in the mill of Messrs. Gott's, at New-road end. The explosion was heard at Headingley, and little-London, and the congregation in St. Paul's church were alarmed lest the

1835.—OCT.

church itself was giving way. A girl, named Susannah Dockray, had been engaged in the room in which were a vast quantity of gunpowder and crackers, and it is supposed she had snuffed the candle on to the crackers, and thus caused the explosion. At first a hissing noise accompanied by repeated cracking, occurred, and Dockray came running down stairs with her clothes on fire, screaming out "Oh Hannah," and rushed out of the house. Mary Wilkinson, Mary Wildman, and a little girl of Wood's, apprehending danger, followed her example. Not so Mrs. Wood, who notwithstanding the entreaties of Wilkinson to the contrary, ran up stairs with the intention of throwing the squibs and crackers out of the window. She just attained the threshold of the room, and the parties below had only got a few yards from the door, when a barrel and half of gunpowder exploded with a noise as of the discharge of a park of artillery; the house rose into the air, and the next instant, together with the houses adjoining, sunk to the earth a mass of blazing ruins. The death of Mrs. Wood, Mrs. Stephenson and her child was instantaneous, they being in the very centre of the explosion. On the opposite side of the lane was the house of James Walker, at a distance of about 12 yards, Walker and another man named Windsor were weaving in an upper room. The slates of the roof were completely blown off, the wall burst in, and the ruins descended into the room in which they were working. Walker was buried in the rubbish which fell about him; but being partly shielded by the rafters, was extricated without having sustained any material injury. Windsor had placed himself under the loom, and by that means was protected from injury. The wife of Walker was buried in the ruins. A child of hers about 3 years of age had a miraculous escape. He was found near the body of his mother in a state of insensibility, but afterwards recovered. An old man named Stead, upwards of 70 years of age, who had been confined to his bed for twelve months was dreadfully scorched, and subsequently died. His wife was very much scorched but afterwards recovered. The event caused the deepest sensation in the town, and a fund was soon raised for the benefit of the survivors. Four alms houses were erected on Holbeck moor in 1838, with the surplus money raised by subscription for the relief of the sufferers.

Nov. 8th. Lord viscount Milton, M.P., died.

18th. A splendid appearance of the Aurora Borealis was witnessed in Leeds with admiration by many of the in-

1835 — Nov.

habitants. The rays shot up from the north, and north-west, in great beauty; here and there a patch of parallel rays suddenly appeared, like the pipes of an organ, and glowed into intense radiance, then gradually vanished. Shortly the whole was in rapid motion. The rushing of the fiery waves over the sky, in directions meeting in the meridian, had a most sublime effect. At times it was even awful, so bright and swift were the flaming pennons.

December 26th. This day took place at Leeds, the first election under the Municipal Corporation Act. This act was introduced into the house of commons by Lord John Russell, on the 5th of June, and after considerable delay and opposition in the upper house, it passed, and received the royal assent, on the 9th of September. The measure abolished all the old corporations, and replaced them by town-councils, of whom one third of the members were to be elected annually by all householders within the borough, of three years occupation, and who shall have actually paid the rates. In pursuance of the 39th section of the act, barristers were appointed to revise the lists of burgesses, divide the borough into wards, and assign the number of councillors to be elected therein respectively. The document by which the borough was so divided into wards, is dated Nov. 6th, and the wards are in the following order of priority:—

*Leeds Township* 1 Mill-hill, 2 West, 3 North-West, 4 North, 5 North-East, 6 East (Hamlets of Osmundthorpe, Skelton, and Thornes.) 7 Kirkgate, 8 South.

*Out-Townships.* 9 Hunslet (township of Hunslet.) 10 Holbeck (townships of Holbeck and Wortley.) 11 Bramley (townships of Bramley, Armley, Farnley, and Beeston.) 12 Headingley, (townships of Headingley-cum-Burley, Chapel-Alerton, and Potternewton.) In thus dividing the borough, the hamlet of Coldcoates was not apportioned by the revising barristers to any ward. The burgess list is now revised annually by the mayor for the time being, and two assessors, commencing on the 1st of October in each year.

The corporation, as at present constituted, consists of a mayor, 16 aldermen, and 48 councillors. The mayor is a justice of the peace for the time being, and for one year after his mayoralty. Each ward returns three councillors, except Mill-hill, West, Holbeck, and Bramley, which have each six. The number of municipal voters (1859) is about 26,000. The council meet at the new Town Hall, as follows:—On 1st Jan., special; 10th Feb, quarterly; 31st March, special; 12th May, quarterly; 31st May, adjourned quarterly; 11th Aug, quarterly; 30th Sept, special; and 9th Nov., quarterly:—eight times during the year.



1835.—DEC. 26th.

The following is an account of the first Municipal Election:—

## Ward. ELECTED.

MILL-HILL. William Hey, jun. C. 276, John Heaton, C. 272, Thomas Shann, C. 266, James Musgrave, L. 262, James Williamson, L. 260, J. Hubbard, L. 259.

WEST. William Smith, L. 235, John Clapham, L. 232, R. Dorrington, L. 222, O. Willans, L. 215, Thos. George, L. 214, Peter Fairbairn, L. 209.

NORTH-WEST. Thos. W. Tottie, L. 126, Mw. Gaunt, L. 115, James Ogle, L. 113.

NORTH. Wm. Cadman, L. 151, Darnton Lupton, L. 150, William Brown, L. 149.

NORTH-EAST. R. Jackson, L. 84, Josa. Barret, L. 81, R. Baker, L. 77.

EAST. J. A. Buttery, L. 94, Jas. Holdforth, L. 91, James Green, L. 90.

KIRKGATE. W. W. Brown, L. 171, J. S. Barlow, L. 159, Thos. Hedden, L. 157.

SOUTH. George Goodman, L. 118, Robt. Derham, L. 117, Jonn. Dickinson, L. 115.

HUNSLET John Bower, L. 430, Joshua Bower, L. 416, John Wilson, L. 411.

HOLBECK. James Hargreave, L. 608, James Whalley, L. 589, Thos. Benyon, L. 587, Jonathan Shackleton, L. 585, C. G. Maclea, L. 581, D. W. Nell, L. 571.

BRAMLEY. William Pawson, L. 746, Mat. Moss, junr., L. 740, Richd. Wilson, L. 736, Benjamin Rogers, L. 734, William Musgrave, L. 733, William Clarke, L. 713.

HEADINGLEY. Thos. Beckett, C. 119, Griffith Wright, C. 117, W. T. Watson, C. 112.

## DEFEATED.

Hamer Stansfeld, L. 257, J. R. Bywater, L. 257, Ed. Charlesworth, C. 255, Robert Hall, C. 253, Radford Potts, C. 246, Henry Rawson, L. 235.

Thos. Blayds, C. 186, Richard Bramley, C. 181, John Howard, C. 181, W. Osburn, Jun. C. 173, George Bischoff, C. 173, John H. Hill, C. 169.

J. R. Atkinson, C. 107, R. Markland, C. 102, Wm. Brigg, C. 98.

Charles Wood, C. 88, Thomas Simpson, C. 84, Richard Ripley, C. 82.

Robert Weare, C. 69, Benjamin Holroyd, C. 66, W. G. Searth, C. 66.

John Cawood, C. 77, R. Stocks, jun. C. 71, W. M. Maude, C. 67.

Christopher Beckett, C. 133, James Maude, C. 120, John Garland, C. 112.

George Banks, C. 102, William Singleton, C. 96, Anthony Titley, C. 90.

Jos. Beckett, C. 246.

James Hargreave, C. 259, James Bateson, C. 253, John Tempest, C. 231.

John Rogerson, C. 466, John Wilson, C. 444, Joseph Eyres, C. 438, John Burton, C. 428, Joseph Wood, C. 427, Samuel Wiate, C. 426.

1835.

Zion School, at New Wortley, near Leeds, is a large and airy brick building with two spacious rooms, erected by subscription in 1835-6 at the cost of £1,040, of which £400 was granted out of the sum voted by parliament towards the erection of schools, for the use of the poor. The raising of subscriptions, for the erection of the building, was in a great measure owing to the unwearied and self-denying labours of Mr. Jonathan Shackleton, and Mr. James Whalley, two of the first members of the town council for the Holbeck ward. At the west end of the building, is the following inscription :—

“Zion School,” “This school was built by subscription, with the aid of Government, for the education of children of *all denominations*. Anno Domini, 1835.”

There is a very useful religious and educational work being carried on in the school. The Sunday school numbers (in 1859) 529 scholars and 67 teachers, and has the rather unusual feature in a Sunday school of being *unsectarian*. Here may be found a band of earnest teachers of different religious opinions, working harmoniously together for the purpose of teaching the great principles of Christianity. The day school is divided into a boys' school, and girl's and infant's school, both under government inspection. Mr. Joseph Bradbury, a certificated master, with the assistance of four pupil teachers conducts the former, which has an average attendance of 160 scholars. Miss Harrison, a certificated mistress, with three pupil teachers conducts the latter, and the average attendance is 140. The yearly grant from government to the master, mistress, and pupil teachers, amounts to about £150. In the same building there is a Mechanics' Institution, possessing a good reading-room and library. The former is open every week-day evening, and the latter on Saturday evenings.

On the 31st of December, the following gentlemen were elected aldermen for the borough of Leeds :—

Jas. Musgrave, James Williamson, Hamer Stansfeld, J. R. Bywater, John Clapham, T. W. Tottie, W. G. Scarth, James Holdforth, W. W. Brown, Thomas Hebden, George Goodman, Thos. Benyon, William Pawson, Thomas Beckett, Griffith Wright, and Henry Hall.

1836. The last mayor elected by virtue of the charter of incorporation, was Griffith Wright, Esq., who continued in office in pursuance of the act of parliament recently passed, until the 1st of January, 1836, on which day at a meeting of the “council,” Thomas Benyon, Esq. was elected mayor, but declined to accept the office, preferring to pay the fine of

1836.—JAN.

£100 imposed in that behalf; William Williams Brown, Esq. was next chosen, but he followed Mr. Benyon's example; and lastly, the choice of the council fell on George Goodman, Esq., who by making and subscribing the declarations in that behalf required, became the first mayor of the borough of Leeds under the municipal corporation act.

*Leeds Municipal Election, Extraordinary, 11th January, 1836.*

The names in Brackets were elected.

MILL-HILL, *vice* Musgrave and Williamson, aldermen, [John Howard, C. 252, Ed. Charlesworth, C. 246.] J. H. Shaw, L. 235, J. H. Hebbethwaite L. 215. — WEST, *vice* Clapham, ald. [Joseph Bateson, L. 210,] Thomas Blayds, C. 194. — NORTH-WEST, *vice* Tottie, ald. [James Robinson, L. 97,] William Briggs, C. 77. John Wilkison, L. 1. — EAST, *vice* Holdforth, ald. [Israel Burrows, L. 82,] Joseph Suglen, C. 27. — KIRKGATE, *vice* Brown and Hebdon, ald. [William Beckett, C. 161, T. B. Pease, L. 157,] Thomas England, C. 156. John Wilkinson, L. 151. Pease and England polled an equal number of votes, but the presiding alderman gave the casting vote to the former. — SOUTH, *vice* Goodman, ald. [John Wilkinson, L. 117,] William Singleton, C. 94. — HUNSLER, *vice* Wilson, ald. [William Heaton, L. 312,] Joseph Beckett, C. 242. — HOLBROCK, *vice* Benyon, ald. [Richard Jackson, L. 260,] — BRAMLEY, *vice* Pawson, ald. [Samuel Priestman, L. 418,] — HEADINGLEY, *vice* Beckett and Wright, ald. [James Maude, C. 83, and Robert Harrison, C. 85.]

During the year 1836, an act was passed for the general registration of births, marriages, and deaths, and another for allowing Dissenters to marry in their own places of worship, and by their own ministers; which also allows marriages at the office of the superintendant registrar. The stamp duty on newspapers was reduced from 4d. (with a discount of 20 per cent) to 1d. net. The result of the measure was the reduction in the price of newspapers nearly one half, and a very great increase in circulation.

Belgrave chapel, Belgrave street, is a plain brick edifice, opened this year. The late Dr. R. W. Hamilton was formerly minister of this chapel: he died July 18th, 1848. The interior is very neat. It will accommodate 1,800 hearers, and has a good organ. An excellent school is attached. The Rev G. W. Conder is minister.

Oxford Place chapel, Park-lane, one of the leading Wesleyan chapels: is built of brick, and was opened this year. The interior is very plain, but neat, having a gallery continued round the chapel. It contains a very superior organ, built by Mr. Hill, of London. There are 2,600 sit-

1836.—JAN.

tings, a considerable number of which are free. The stationed ministers are—the Revs. George Maunder, John V. B. Shrewsbury, Henry Hastling, Peter Mac Owan.

Jan 1st. A melancholy and fatal accident occurred on the Serpentine river in Hyde park, London. The ice being over-crowded by skaters gave way, and a large number of persons were immersed in the water, eight of whom were drowned.——Jan. A carpet weaver named Deau at Leeds, had £10,000 left him by a rich relative in London.

Many English merchants suffered great loss at this time, by a fire in New York, said to be more destructive than any fire known since that of Moscow, and by which property to the amount of at least two millions sterling was consumed. The fire raged for a night and a day, and from 700 to 1,000 houses and warehouses, with the exchange and post office were reduced to a mass of ruins.

The following gentlemen were appointed to public offices in Leeds, in the year 1836:—

15th January, *Borough Treasurer*: John Smith. 15th June, *Clerk of the Peace*: James Richardson, the votes were Richardson, 25, James Nicholson, 21, John Arthur Ikin, 5. 2nd ballot, Richardson, 30, Nicholson, 21. 8th July, *Town Clerk*: Edwin Eddison, the votes were Eddison, 27, Robert Barr, 21, John Blackburne, 11. 2nd ballot, Eddison 38, Barr, 21. Dec. 3rd, *Clerk to the Justices*: Robert Barr. Dec. 24th, *Coroner, vice* John Lofthouse, resigned, John Blackburne. The votes were Blackburne 21, J. A. Ikin, 21, Charles Naylor, 11. 2nd ballot, Blackburne 30, Ikin 23.

The following gentlemen were appointed Justices of the Peace for the borough of Leeds—first commission, 1836.

Jas. Williamson, M.D., Edward Baines, M.P., Geo. Banks, Thos. Beckett, Thos. Benyon, Thos. Wm. Tottie, William Williams Brown, Jno. Marshall, junr, Jas. Holdforth, George Goodman, Dd. Wm. Nell, Hamer Stansfeld, Jas. Musgrave, Jno. Clapham, Thos. Hedden, William Pawson, Wm. Cadman, Edward Grace, Wm. Smith, John Gott, Wm. Hey, Darnton Lupton.

On the 12th of February, died of old age, Copenhagen. the horse which carried the duke of Wellington on the field of Waterloo, By the orders of his grace, a salute was fired over his grave, and thus he was buried as he had lived with military honours.——March 2nd. At the Leeds general cemetery, Mr. and Mrs. Hawkshaw, husband and wife were interred. They both died at the same time; both were victims of the same disorder, namely consumption, and both were buried in the same grave.——7th. Mr. Edward Barr, a solicitor of Leeds, pleaded guilty at York,

1836—APRIL.

to a charge of a long continued and extensive series of forgeries, on the treasurer for the West-Riding. He was transported for the term of his natural life.

April 30th. A valuable chain of standard gold, weighing two pounds troy, and which cost £197 14s. was presented to George Goodman, Esq., the first mayor under the new corporation. An heraldic shield pendant to the chain, has on it the following inscription:—

“Presented by the burgesses and inhabitants of Leeds to their reform corporation, as the official insignia of the mayor, in token of their approbation of representative municipal government, and to remind the chief magistrates, that their powers and honours, conferred by the people, are to be held for the public welfare. George Goodman, Esq., first mayor, elected 1st January, 1836.”

On Sunday, the 13th of May, there was an annular eclipse of the sun. At Leeds, it commenced about 42 minutes past one in the afternoon; the greatest obscuration was at 10 minutes past three; and the moon passed from the sun's surface at half-past four. Venus was visible to the naked eye. At the commencement, the thermometer in the sun was 95°; at the middle it was 72°; and at the end it was 80°. During the eclipse the flowers closed their petals, insect life was still and motionless; the birds of the air flew near the ground, and there was a peculiar solemnity in the silence which reigned around. The places of worship in the town postponed the hour of divine service on account of the interesting phenomenon.——16th. The carpet manufactory of Mr. John Howard, at the Bank, Leeds, was consumed by fire, damage about £10,000.

The following is a copy of an inscription on a tablet erected in the Independent chapel, Warley, near Halifax to the memory of the late Dr. Boothroyd:—

“To the memory of the Rev. Benjamin Boothroyd, LL.D. and D.D. who was a native of, and once a poor boy, in this village. He was a student at Heckmondwike academy, and at the age of 22 became minister of the Independent chapel, Pontefract, and afterwards of Highfield chapel, Huddersfield, where he died on the 8th of September, 1836, aged 68 years. His simplicity and godly sincerity endeared him to all—his biblical labours raised him to an eminence attained by few—and he died a good old age, crowned with labours and honours. He made a complete translation of the whole bible, and published it with a commentary. This tablet was erected by a few friends and strangers, to remind the youth of Warley that ‘honour here and happiness hereafter,’ as the reward of diligent exertion, are in the power of every one.”

The deceased was interred at Highfield chapel.

1836—Oct..

Oct. 5th, By an order in council of this date, the new diocese of Ripon was instituted with the consent of the archbishop of York, and the bishop of Chester. The diocese is subject to the metropolitan jurisdiction of York, and consists of that part of the county of York previously in the diocese of Chester, the deanery of Craven, and all such parts of the deaneries of Ainsty and Pontefract, in the diocese of York, as lie to the westward of the Ainsty, and the wapentakes of Barkstone Ash, Osgoldcross, and Staincross. The two archdeaconries of Craven and Richmond have been instituted, the collegiate church has been made a cathedral, and the town has hence become a city. The average yearly income of the bishop has been fixed at £4,500; and a palace for his habitation has been erected at North Grange, about a mile north-west of Ripon, at an estimated expense of nearly £10,000. The establishment attached to the diocese consists of the bishop, the dean, six canons, two minor canons, vicars' choral, two archdeacons, and a commissary of the archdeaconry of Richmond.——5th. The non-commissioned officers and privates of the Leeds squadron of Yorkshire hussars, presented a handsome silver cup to Captain Upton, of the K. troop in that squadron. The presentation took place at the private parade of the squadron at York, in the presence of Colonel the Earl de Grey, Captain Beckett, and several officers of the regiment.

24th. Sir John Beckett, one of the representatives of the borough of Leeds, was entertained by his friends at a public dinner at the Music hall, to which 350 gentlemen sat down.——30th. Louis Napoleon made an attempt at Strasbourg to overthrow by a *coup de main*, the government of Louis Phillipe, by representing that the king was dead, and by employing the name of Napoleon as a spell. He was subsequently sent to the United States as a punishment, on giving his word of honour not to quit that country for ten years.——31st. On this day died John Marshall, junr., Esq., of Headingley, one of the first representatives of the borough of Leeds in parliament. He was in his 9th year. His death caused universal and profound regret in the town.

## LEEDS MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS, 1st NOVEMBER, 1836.

The names in Brackets were elected.

MILL-HILL, [Henry Jennings, C. 277, Edward Charlesworth, C. 275,] James Hubbard, L. 273, S. J. Birchall, L. 254.——WEST, [Peter Fairbairn, L. 250, Thomas George, L. 246, Richard Bramley, C. 246,] Adam Hunter, C. 245.——NORTH-WEST, [Matthew Gaunt

1836 — Nov.

L. 104.) ——— NORTH, (William Brown, L. 77,) afterwards bankrupt  
 NORTH-EAST, (Robert Baker, L. 89.) ——— EAST, (Eli Whiteley, L.  
 102.) ——— KIRKGATE, (Thomas Benson Pease, L. 67.) ——— SOUTH  
 (Jonathan Dickinson, L. 114.) ——— HUNSLET, (William Heaton, L.  
 312,) Joseph Beckett, C. 242. ——— HOLBECK, (C. G. Maclea, L. 159,  
 Edward Tatham, L. 159.) ——— BRAMLEY, (William Clarke, L. 187,  
 William Musgrave, L. 184.) ——— HEADINGLEY, (George Hayward  
 C. 84.) ——— Nov. 9th. James Williamson, M.D., was elected mayor,  
 The voting was as follows:—J. Williamson, 26, T. W. Tottie, 21,  
 Thos. Beckett, 10. 2nd vote, Dr. Williamson, 37, T. W. Tottie, 18.

Nov. 3rd. The very elegant spire of Christ church, Don-  
 caster, was struck by lightning, in one of the most awful  
 storms of thunder and lightning, ever known at that place :  
 one third of the spire was entirely destroyed, and the body  
 of the church seriously injured. ——— A fire occurred at  
 Mr. Pullan's iron foundry, Hunslet, doing damage to the  
 amount of £1,000.

12th. Dr. Williamson, mayor, having stated that he had  
 a conscientious objection to attend the Leeds parish church,  
 as his predecessors had done, no procession of the mayor  
 and corporation took place, as was the invariable custom  
 on the Sunday succeeding the election of mayor in former  
 times. ——— 23rd Died, aged 56, James Nicholson, Esq.,  
 clerk to the magistrates of the borough of Leeds, and for  
 many years also clerk of the peace, and town clerk at the  
 time. ——— 15,000 cotton spinners at Preston and the neigh-  
 bourhood were on the strike. ——— 30th. A tremendous  
 hurricane swept over London, Birmingham, and other  
 places, accompanied by heavy falls of rain, said to have  
 been more severe than any gale during 50 years. More  
 than 200 boats were sunk and broken in the Thames. There  
 was scarcely a street in the metropolis in which the houses  
 were not more or less injured. At Birmingham, the canal  
 overflowed and swept down ten houses. The loss of life  
 and destruction of property throughout the country was  
 immense. The storm passed over Yorkshire very harmlessly

Dec. 13th. A coal pit explosion took place in the Bog pit,  
 near Wakefield, belonging to Mr. Fenton. There were  
 thirteen men and six boys in the pit at the time, all of  
 whom were dreadfully burnt, and some were killed.

16th. The foundation stone of St. George's church, Leeds,  
 was laid by the lord bishop of Ripon. It was finished in 1838,  
 and occupies an elevated position, being approached from  
 the west by a lofty flight of stone steps, and is surrounded  
 by a flagged terrace, under which vaults are constructed.  
 £11,000 was raised by subscription for the building and en-



1836.—DRC.

dowment, towards which sum William Beckett, Esq., and family, munificently contributed £700. The style is Gothic; the tower, which is at the west end, has a spire raising it to a height of 150 feet. The interior is neat and chaste in the decoration; over the altar is a magnificent painting—*subject*, All nations looking unto Christ, “He ever liveth to make intercession for us,” painted by C. W. Cope, R.A., whom we have the honour of associating with our town. Three handsome tablets have been erected to the memory of the late Mrs. Sinclair, John Atkinson, Esq., and Mr. Robinson.

The original organ in this church was built by Samuel Greene, (one of the most eminent builders of the last century,) and was brought from some church or abbey in Wales. In 1850 Greene’s organ was taken down, and many of the stops were embodied in the large organ, with three manuals, which was then built by Mr. Holt, of Leeds. The instrument has been recently entirely re-modelled by the organist, Mr. Spark, who, through the liberality of the churchwardens and the congregation, secured the valuable services of Messrs. Gray and Davidson, in the execution of the work. The organ now contains 33 sounding stops, 8 couplers, and 3 manuals. The Rev. John Blomesfield, M.A., is the present incumbent, having succeeded the much respected Rev. William Sinclair, M.A., who held the incumbency for upwards of twenty years. It is worthy of notice, that on the resignation of his charge, the members of the congregation affectionately presented the Rev. Gentleman with a purse of 500 guineas, and a silver tea and coffee service.

31st. The Leeds mails and others on the London road, were delayed, owing to the snow, which choked the roads. The mail which left the metropolis on Saturday night, did not arrive till ten minutes past nine on Sunday night—it was five hours behind its time——About noon this day an immense avalanche, glided from the cliff hills at Lewes, and falling over the precipice, dashed in the roofs, and entirely destroyed five houses, burying fourteen unfortunate inmates under a mountain of snow.

In December the state of the money market was very critical. One of the largest joint stock banks in the kingdom, namely the “Northern and Central Bank of England,” was compelled to seek assistance from the bank of England.

1837. Headingley church, dedicated to St. Michael, is a neat cruciform structure, in the latter English style, with an embattled tower, surmounted by a graceful spire, and has a peal of six bells, which were brought from the old

1837—JAN.

parish church of Leeds. It was erected in 1837-8, on the site of the ancient chapel, and cost £2,582. The Rev. William Williamson is the incumbent. The old chapel was very ancient, the eastern end was supposed to have been built in the reign of Henry II., or Henry III. It was held along with the chapel of Allerton, by the same minister, who did duty at both places once on each Sunday, at Headingley in the morning, and Allerton in the afternoon. The inhabitants of Headingley having much increased, the chapel was enlarged in the year 1620, from the projection on the north and south sides. The interior of the chapel was open to the roof from end to end, till the year 1800, when it was underdrawn; Mr. Wilson, of Moor Grange, being at that time chapelwarden.——In this year Richard Baker, and Son, of Osset Street-side, near Dewsbury, found out an improvement in the manufacture of glass, by which they made it so pliable that they could make a cloth or fabric of the finest texture. They made pieces of this glass  $2\frac{1}{4}$  yards long, and from 9 to 36 inches broad; they also made some very fine ladies' head-dresses and ornaments from this material, which were considered both very curious and useful. In January, 1833, they presented to her Majesty an elegant *glass apron*, having the appearance of silk, and feeling to the touch quite as soft.——The following offences ceased to be capitally punished, viz.:—rape, burglaries, arson, and forgeries.

Jan. 12th. The Poor Law Commissioners issued a warrant declaring that the laws for the relief of the poor of the township of Leeds, should be administered by a Board of Guardians of twenty members elected yearly.

18th. A public dinner (at which 1,000 individuals sat down) was given by the reformers of Leeds to the West-Riding members, and the liberal members for the boroughs of the riding. The dinner was held in the Britannia mill, Whitehall road.——In the early part of this year, the *Influenza* was so prevalent in Leeds, that scarcely a family escaped it. The disease in many cases was attended with considerable fever, and an entire prostration of strength. The medical profession could scarcely answer the demands upon them. The obituary of the Leeds papers was never before so fearfully long. The town of Bradford was visited by the disease, in January and February, and carried to the grave great numbers—86 burials are noted in the church register for each month. At Sheffield the malady was more fatal than the cholera of 1832

1837.—JAN.

the patients afflicted within the town amounting at one time to about 1500, and the deaths to upwards of 100 per week. In London and Scotland it assumed the more malignant form of typhus fever, and vast numbers died. In Dublin it was very fatal, there were a 1,000 funerals on Sunday the 29th of January, in that city alone.

JAN. 21st. Charles Milner, Esq., Recorder of Leeds, died of influenza, aged 48. He was a man of high honour and inflexible independence of character, possessing, in an eminent degree, that moral courage which peculiarly fitted him for his public duties; as a lawyer, few men in the profession knew more; and as a judge, humanly speaking, he was faultless.—On the following day, (the 22nd) after a few days illness, died of the prevailing epidemic, the Rev. Richard Fawcett, M.A., vicar of Leeds, aged 76. He was appointed to the vicarage of Leeds on the 22nd of March, 1815, and held the pastoral charge of that populous and important parish for nearly twenty-two years. His sound christian doctrines was enforced with sincerity and earnestness, and was practically evinced by his brotherly love his unostentatious demeanour, his extensive charity, and his universal benevolence. A tablet is erected to the memory of the deceased, within the altar rails of the Leeds parish church, on the north-east side, and bears the following inscription:—

“To the memory of the late Rev. Richard Fawcett, M.A., vicar of this parish, in which the whole of his ministerial labours had been spent; having been seven years curate of this church, twenty-three years incumbent of Armley, and upwards of twenty years vicar of this parish, a man of genuine liberality, firm in principle, in his manners courteous, who died Jan 22nd., 1837, aged 76, beloved by his family, valued by his friends, and esteemed and respected by all his parishioners.”

Feb. 18th. Lord John Russell appointed Robert Baynes Armstrong, recorder of Hull, to be the recorder of Leeds, in the place of Mr. Milner, deceased, and appointed Mr. Matthew Talbot Baines, of Leeds to Mr. Armstrong's place.

26th. From a mistaken notion that the new registration act would increase the fees of baptism, there were baptized at one church in Manchester, in one day, 360 children; at Huddersfield, 86; at Bradford, in three days, 398; at Leeds, in three days, 400.—Mr. William Hirst, manufacturer, of Leeds, having been for a long time confined in Rothwell gaol, for debt, his Majesty on hearing of

1-37—FEB.

the case sent a benefaction of £20. His fellow-townsmen also raised a subscription for his benefit, amounting to £1,308.

On Monday, the 20th of March, the Rev. Walter Farquhar Hook, M.A. of Coventry, was elected vicar of Leeds, in the place of the Rev. Richard Fawcett, deceased. He had sixteen votes out of twenty-five, that being the number of electing trustees, two of whom were not present, the votes were as follows:—Rev. W. F. Hook, 16, Rev. Wm. Langley, 5, Rev. Geo. Wray, 1, Rev. Mr. Dodgshun, 1. It is impossible to conceive an election conducted on principles more honourable to all parties. The trustees disregarding all local influence, elected, solely from his very high character, a gentleman who, a fortnight prior, was not known by sight to so much as one of their body. Mr. Hook had altogether forbore to seek, he simply acquiesced in an appointment which greatly enlarged his sphere of action, and bestowed on him a high degree of ecclesiastical precedence, more than trebling the amount of his church preferments.

April. The merchants of Liverpool and Manchester applied to government for assistance, owing to the depression of trade, and suspension of credit, mainly caused by failures in America. The Liverpool memorial to the chancellor of the Exchequer stated:—"That the distress of the mercantile interest is intense beyond example, and that it is rapidly extending to all ranks and conditions of the community, so as to threaten irretrievable ruin in all directions, involving the prudent with the imprudent, the manufacturer with the merchant, and the weavers, spinners, and labourers generally, with the manufacturers themselves." The distress of the hand-loom weavers of Manchester was very great. Hundreds of them paraded the streets demanding bread from the shopkeepers, alleging that they and their families were literally starving.

20th. On the evening of this day there was a total eclipse of the moon. The obscuration commenced at half-past six, and ended at a quarter past ten. About half-past eight, the earth was betwixt the sun and the moon, and the sun was actually below the horizon; but owing to the refraction of the earth's atmosphere, the sun remained for some time above the western horizon, while the moon appeared partially eclipsed in the eastern.

May. 24th. This day was celebrated throughout the country with great demonstration of loyalty, occasioned by the princess Victoria having attained her legal majority. In Leeds the shops and manufactories were closed. The

1837.—JUNE.

*feu de joie* from the barracks, and the ringing of the parish church bells.

June 7th. The first meeting of the Leeds Horticultural and Floral Society, was held in the Music Hall, under the patronage of the worshipful the mayor,——14th, The boiler of the Union steam packet, exploded at Hull, 150 passengers were on board at the time; she blew up with a tremendous force, and the vessel immediately sunk. Twenty one individuals were killed, and many others received serious injury.——The Leeds Waterworks were originated at a very early date, viz., 1694, when, at a court held in that year, it was agreed that Messrs. Gilbert and Scorocold, of Leicester and Derby, should “lay an Engine to convey water from the river of Aire, through the streetes to the seurall houses within the towne of Leeds aforesaid . . . on consideration of the sume of forty pounds, to be paid to the treasurer of this corporacon, for the use and benefit thereof,” &c. After improvements (in 1754, 1790, and subsequent years) water was pumped from the river Aire near the bridge, into small reservoirs in New-street, St. John’s, and Albion-street, at the rate of 80 or 90 gallons per minute. They were found so inefficient in 1836, that upwards of 60,000 of the inhabitants of Leeds, Holbeck, and Hunslet, had no supply, except from wells and rain water. In June 1837, an act of parliament was obtained for abandoning the old, and for constructing new works, by a company of proprietors, at the estimated cost of £91,000 raised in £25 shares. They derive their chief supply from copious springs at Eccup and Aldwoodley, about six miles north of Leeds. These springs yield about 500 gallons of pure water per minute, which is collected in a reservoir at Eccup, covering the extensive area of 50 acres, and holding 257 millions of gallons. The aqueduct consists of 7 arches, each of 34 feet span. The water is sent in culverts and pipes, and flows into the service reservoirs at Weetwood and Woodhouse, which, together, hold about 33 million gallons. An act obtained in 1852 empowered the corporation to purchase the works (which had previously been in the hands of a company) at a cost of £227,419 9s. 6d., and to make considerable improvements. Under this act, and one obtained in 1856, extensive pumping works were constructed at Arthington, consisting of two engines of 100-horse power each, which lift 2,500,000 gallons of water per day, from the river Wharfe to the reservoir at Eccup, a height of about 250 feet, and a distance of 3½ miles. These works were opened May, 1856. The

1837—JUNE.

town and suburbs have now an ample supply of the pure beverage of nature, which has proved a great blessing to the inhabitants at large.

20th. William the IV., died at Windsor castle, of general decay, at twelve minutes past two o'clock in the morning. He was born on the 21st of August, 1765, and was the third son of George III. He ascended the throne, at the death of his brother, George IV., on the 26th of June, 1830. He had therefore lived 71 years and 10 months, and has reigned very nearly seven years. He was fervent in his expressions of religious hope, and just before breathing his last, faintly articulated "Thy will be done." The queen had been unremitting in her attentions; was scarcely ever absent from the sick chamber, and for twelve days did not take off her clothes. The loss of the king was generally and sincerely felt by the nation, as that of a good man and beneficent sovereign, who had committed no wrong, provoked no enmity, and whose memory may safely repose undisturbed by the shafts of envy, vengeance, or malignity. The Princess Alexandrina Victoria was proclaimed Queen of England the same day. Within a month after her accession, parliament was dissolved, and a general election ensued.

An order appeared in the London Gazette, dated 21st June, giving public notice "that it is expected that all persons, upon the present occasion of the death of his late majesty, of blessed and glorious memory, do put themselves into decent mourning; the said mourning to begin upon Saturday next, the 24th instant."——27th. The accession of Queen Victoria was proclaimed in Leeds with great loyalty and splendour.

July. The Wesleyan conference was held in Leeds during this month.——10th. A public meeting was held at the court-house, Leeds, for the purpose of determining on the most suitable means of alleviating the great distress which prevailed amongst the labouring classes. In August following, a commission sat in Leeds and other towns to investigate the cause of the distress amongst the hand-loom weavers. Most of the witnesses attributed the distress to machinery, and said that a repeal of the corn-laws would mitigate their sufferings. It was given in evidence that it was impossible for hand-loom weavers to earn more than ten or twelve shillings a week, when working full time.

20th. The cloth manufactory of Messrs Shaw, brothers, Aire-street, Leeds, was totally destroyed by fire.

27th. LEEDS ELECTION. The nomination of candidates to represent the borough of Leeds, took place on Woodhouse

1837.—JULY.

moor, on the 26th of July, in the presence of not less than 40,000 persons. Sir John Beckett, was moved and seconded by Mr. John Gott, and Mr. George Banks; Edward Baines, Esq., by Mr. J. G. Marshall, and Mr. H. H. Stansfeld; and Sir William Molesworth, by Mr. Alderman Goodman, and Mr. Alderman Musgrave. The show of hands was in favour of Mr. Baines, and Sir W. Molesworth. The polling took place on the following day the 27th, and was conducted with great spirit. The result was as follows:—

<i>Mr. E. Baines</i>	...	...	...	...	(W)	2,028.
<i>Sir W. Molesworth</i>	...	...	...	...	(R)	1,880.
<i>Sir J. Beckett</i>	...	...	...	...	(T)	1,759.

The split votes were:—Baines and Molesworth, 1856, Baines and Beckett, 82, Molesworth and Beckett, 10. The plumpers were:—Baines, 90, Molesworth, 14, Beckett, 1,667; 3,719 voted.—The election at Bradford on the 26th of July, resulted in the return of E. C. Lister, and William Busfield, the numbers being at the close of the poll, Lister, (W) 635, Busfield, (W) 621, John Hardy, (T) 443, Wm. Busfield, junr., (T) 383.—At Halifax, E. Protheroe, and Charles Wood were elected. The numbers being, Protheroe, (W) 496, Wood, (W) 487, Hon. J. S. Wortley, (T) 398.—At Huddersfield, W. R. C. Stansfeld was returned. The votes being Stansfeld, (W) 323, Richard Oastler, (T) 201.

Aug. 4th. The election of two members for the West-Riding of Yorkshire, resulted as follows:—Lord Morpeth, (W) 12,576, Sir Geo. Strickland, (W) 11,892, the Hon. John S. Wortley, 11,489, Samuel Wood, (of Slaithwaite) 1, Elihu Hobson, (Netherthong) 1. At the nomination for the West-Riding election at Wakefield, a disgraceful riot occurred. The hustings were erected in Wood-street, adjoining the court house, and during the proceedings, a disturbance commenced which progressed to a desperate fight between the partizans of the candidates, who were distinguished by the respective colours, blue and yellow. Flag-staves were broken in two for the purpose of converting them into bludgeons, with which the mob fought hand-to-hand, with a determination hardly to be exceeded on a field of battle. Those who were not provided with weapons of the description mentioned, laid their hands upon bricks or any other missile that came in their way, which they hurled right and left, wholly indifferent as to consequences. Broken heads and bloody noses were conspicuous in all directions. When the street combatants had exhausted



1837.—AUG.

their fury, a general attack was made upon the hustings, but although brick-bats fell as thick as hail-stones, the injuries sustained were comparatively trifling, those present contriving to make their escape from the back part into the interior of the court. The affray, however, did not end without fatal consequences. Mr. Carter, residing at Cleckheaton, was struck on the head with a brick, and with such force, as to occasion his death shortly after. The amiability of his character had won for him universal respect, and his untimely end excited the deepest regret. A woman named Margaret Moore, from Leeds, was also struck in a similar manner, and she died in a few days. An inquest was held before John Blackburne, Esq., coroner, at the court house, Leeds, and the inquiry was of a very protracted kind, owing to an attempt being made to identify one of the sons of John Hardy, Esq., formerly member for Bradford, as having thrown the brick with which the unfortunate woman was killed. The evidence, however, failed to establish the accusation, and the jury returned an open verdict. The windows of the Tammy Hall and the Woodman Inn, were wholly demolished, as well as a great number in the court house. In the mean time an express had been sent to Leeds for the assistance of the military, and a detachment of dragoons speedily arrived, and were drawn up in front of the Corn Exchange. Fortunately, however, the disturbance gradually subsided, and with the exception of public-house brawls, the town resumed its wonted quiet.——14th. The Earl of Cardigan died aged 68 years.

Oct. 4th. *The Leeds Rifle Club*, established in June, 1836, met to practice for the first time on the 24th of May, 1837, and on the 4th of Oct. in the same year, their last meeting of the season was held at the shooting ground, at Kirkstall Abbey. The first prize was awarded to Mr. Henry Stooks Smith, the second to Mr. Francis William Tetley, and the third to Mr. William Sykes Ward. The distance of shooting was 120 yards. At the close of the season in the following year, 1838, the prizes were awarded to Mr. George Skirrow Beecroft, Mr. Abraham Horsfall, and Mr. H. S. Smith. The club soon afterwards ceased to exist, in consequence of its being declared to be illegal.

23rd. A splendid portrait of "George Goodman, Esq. first mayor of the borough of Leeds, under the Municipal Reform Act," painted by John Simpson, Esq., was presented to the town council by the burgesses of the said borough.

1837.—Nov.

## LEEDS MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS, 1ST NOVEMBER, 1837.

The names in Brackets were elected.

MILL-HILL, [John Howard, C. 356. Radford Potts, C. 354.] Henry Rawson, L. 283, J. D. Luccock, L. 277.——WEST, [William Dove, C. 792, Adam Hunter, M.D., C. 787.] George Wise, L. 730.

NORTH-WEST, [W. B. Holdsworth, L. 281.] Ralph Markland, C. 249.——NORTH, [William Watson, L. 248, William Whitehead, L. 244, Charles Wood, C. 122.] Watson and Whitehead were declared by the presiding alderman to be duly elected; but they were afterwards unseated by Mandamus. and Wood, the conservative candidate was declared to be elected. The liberal party had supposed that a councillor *vice* Brown, a bankrupt, could be returned at the usual election on the 1st of Nov., when in fact it required an extraordinary election for the purpose. The liberal voting-papers were consequently all wrong, and so far as Watson and Whitehead were concerned, the election was declared to be void. Nov. 17th, *vice* Brown a bankrupt, [Wm. Watson L. 619.] Jas. Hargrave, C. 588.——NORTH-EAST, [Saml. Lawson, C. 773.] J. W. Smith, L. 384.——EAST, [Israel Burrows, L. 598.] Charles Scarbrough, C. 499.——KIRKGATE, [John Smith Barlow, L. 12.]——SOUTH, [Robert Derham, L. 144.]——HUNSLLET, [Josa. Bower, L. 194.] Joseph Beckett, C. 167.——HOLBECK, [Jonathan Shackleton, L. 17, John Forster, L. 17.]——BRAMLEY, [Richard Wilson, L. 68, Benjamin Rogers, L. 68.]——HEADINGLEY, [George Skirrow Beecroft, C. 165.] Thomas Clapham, L. 27.

Nov. 9th. Thos. Wm. Tottie, was elected mayor. The votes were Tottie, 34. Thos. Hebden, 13.

This year was marked at Bradford by the occurrence of a serious riot, arising out of the introduction of the New-Poor-law. In February the Bradford Union had been constituted. On Monday, October 30th, the guardians met at the court house to make arrangements for taking the management of the poor into their hands. The meeting was first held in the jury-room; but on account of the violence of the crowd in the court-house to obtain admission into the room, the board adjourned to the 20th of November, and in the mean time, application was made by the assistant-commissioner for the aid of the military. Accordingly, on Saturday evening, the 18th, a detachment of about forty of the 15th hussars, commanded by Captain Murray, and Lieutenant Pilgrim, arrived in the town. At ten o'clock on Monday, the guardians met at the court-house, and proceeded to business. Not above one hundred persons were then present. About twelve o'clock they amounted to five or six thousand. All the doors leading to the court-house were barricaded and secured; and the crowd finding it impossible to obtain access, began to throw

1837—Nov.

stones at the windows. One of the magistrates went to the Talbot Inn for the soldiers, who came at hand gallop, and formed in a line before the iron palisading in front of the court-house, and for some time remained inactive. At length a daring fellow contrived to remove the barricado, and immediately a body of men rushed up the stairs and began to force the folding-doors leading to the place of meeting of the guardians. As soon as Mr. Paley saw these movements he read the riot act. This did not avail; upon which the military were ordered to clear the court-house yard and steps; which was effected after a considerable resistance, and some of the soldiers had been severely wounded with the shower of stones with which they were assailed from Leeds New-road. The charges and counter-charges between the mob and soldiers continued for several minutes, the latter behaving with great forbearance and using only the back of the sword. A pause now took place, after which a number of the mob proceeded to the field to the north of the court-house, and began very deliberately to smash the windows. On hearing this the soldiers leaped their horses over the low wall and quickly dispersed the people. The mob were now comparatively quiet till the breaking up of the meeting of guardians. When the guardians in company with the magistrates left the court-house, they were followed by several hundreds of people. When they came near Brook-street they were assailed by volleys of stones, one of which struck Mr. Paley on the head, but his hat saved him from serious injury. The party of guardians and magistrates were upon this obliged to take shelter in a warehouse. A party of soldiers shortly after arrived and escorted them into the town. The people about three o'clock began to disperse, and the military were ordered to their quarters. When the soldiers had disappeared, the people were emboldened to assemble again at the court-house; again attacked the windows of the building with great assiduity, and before the arrival of the military, had nearly demolished every pane. The mob now began to shew a determination to oppose the soldiers; and darkness coming on, a desultory skirmish took place, which was prolonged till seven o'clock. The soldiers, having received much provocation, began to display less command, and used their pistols and the edge of the sword. A young man was shot through the arm, and obliged to have the member amputated. Several were slightly wounded, but none mortally, as the soldiers, pursuant to

1837.—DEC.

orders, fired very low. Several persons concerned in the riot were taken and committed to York castle to take their trial.

Dec. 2nd. A fog occurred this evening, the most dense, that had been known for many years.——11th. A meeting of delegates from thirteen Mechanics' Institutes was held at Leeds, at which the West-Riding Union of Mechanics' Institutes was formed : subsequently enlarged to be the Yorkshire Union of Mechanics' Institutes. The plan of the association was laid down in an article of the Leeds Mercury on the 16th of Sept., written by Edward Baines, junior, Esq.

21st. The extremely heavy rain for two or three days preceeding this time, produced one of the highest and most sudden floods ever known in Yorkshire. In Leeds, Water-lane, School-close, and Lady Bridge, Lady-lane, suffered the most. The streets were rendered impassable. The water in some places being four or five feet high. The water in Messrs. Marshall's mill, was thirteen inches higher than the level of Water-lane, much damage was done to property in the vicinity of the flood. At Bradford, Halifax, and other places the water did much damage. At Bradford, on Wednesday, the 20th of December, the rain descended in torrents for six or eight hours, and this, with the almost incessant rain for several days, caused a most alarming flood. The water in the beck had increased so considerably that the inhabitants in the lower parts of the town began to remove their goods. About two o'clock, the passage being choked up, the water shortly overflowed the whole of the lower part of the town. One continuous and impetuous current flowed from the end of Thornton-road, down Tyrrel-street, over the area of the Sun Bridge, Bridge-street, Market-street, and Well-street ; and reaching up the hill as far as Hustler-gate on one side, and Skinner-lane on the other. In many parts of the streets the stream was six feet in depth. From the Old Brewery, not only an immense number of empty casks, but several barrels of ale were swept away. At one time, a waggon laden with wood was seen majestically floating down the stream. The loss of property, especially by grocers, in the lower part of the town was very great. Three persons perished in the flood, Thomas Keeton, head ostler at the Sun Inn, while attempting to save some floating casks, slipped into a water course in Union-street, and was drowned. A female named Susannah Lightowler, of Wibsey, while attempting to cross Thornton-road was swept away ; and a child belonging to

1837.—DEC.

Thomas Taylor, in Dunkirk-street, was drowned in a cellar before the mother could get it away. The loss to poor cottagers was very considerable.

ROBERT NICOLL, a poet, of simple, true, and earnest feeling, was born January 7th, 1814, in the farm-house of Little Tulliebeltane, in the parish of Auchtergavane, in Perthshire. His father, a farmer, who counted a long pedigree of decent, honest, God-fearing people, fell from comfortable circumstances into poverty, in consequence of having become security for a relative. The son, from his early days, had to work in the fields with the other members of the family, which consisted of nine children, besides father and mother. Yet that goodness which tempers the severest lot of the virtuous poor was around them, and at the lowest ebb of their fortunes many of the best blessings of life sweetened their trials: that must have been a cheerful home from which sprang the germs of Nicoll's poetry—his songs, his descriptions of rustic manners, and his portraits of rustic contemporaries. In his boyhood he was a keen reader, and from his studious disposition was termed by other boys "The Minister." When about twelve, he was taken from herding, and sent to work in the garden of a neighbouring proprietor. He went to school during the winter, but learnt little. When about 14 he formed an acquaintance with a young student, named Marshall, from whom he learnt his own deficiencies, and had his desire for self-culture quickened. In a book-club which he joined, he found other means of improvement, particularly Scott's Novels, with which he was enchanted. As early as 13 he began to put his thoughts on paper, and even became a correspondent of a provincial newspaper. At 16, despairing of being able to write the English language, correctly, he made a bonfire of his papers, and wrote no more until he was eighteen. "My excursive course of reading, among both poets and prozers," he says, "gave me many pleasures of which my fellows knew nothing, but it likewise made me more sensitive to the insults and degradations that a dependent must suffer. You cannot know the horrors of dependence, but I have felt them, and have registered a vow in heaven that I will be independent, though it be but on a crust and water." In Perth, where he had bound himself apprentice to a grocer and wine merchant, he bought "Cobbet's English Grammar," and having by constant study made himself master of its contents, he

1837—DEC.

again began to write, and with more satisfactory results. He also obtained permission to use the Perth Library, where he found, and benefited by, Milton's, Locke's, and Bentham's works. Speaking of this period of his life, he remarks, "I do not rate my literary productions too highly; but they have all a definite purpose—that of trying to raise the many. I am a Radical in every sense of the term, and I must stand by my order. I am employed in working for my mistress from seven o'clock in the morning until nine at night; and I must therefore write when others are asleep. During winter to sit without a fire is a hard task; but summer is coming—and then!" Seeing how small were the gains of his parents, he, with two pounds that he had saved, enabled his mother to open a little shop in her cottage at Tulliebeltane, and to attend the weekly market at Perth. About this time Nicoll became a member of a debating society, which was partly political and partly literary. Here he acquired the important faculty of addressing public assemblies, which he afterwards turned to good account. To improve himself in composition, he wrote short stories, one of which entitled "Il Zingaro," he sent to "Johnstone's Magazine," in the pages of which it was printed. It is the tale of a gipsy youth, of fine and aspiring genius, who, smitten with love for a beautiful girl, becomes a water-carrier in an Italian city, and who, by resolutely enduring every kind of privation, and exerting wonderful energy, is enabled to become the pupil of an eminent painter, and finally acquires great eminence in his art, and obtains the hand of the object of his love and his exertions. Towards the close of his apprenticeship Nicoll's health became seriously affected, when his mistress sent him home to be nursed by his mother. At leisure in his native air, he soon recovered, and then visited Edinburgh in quest of employment. Failing in his object, he returned home, and opened a circulating library in Dundee. The year 1835 was an important epoch in his life. He wrote frequently for the Liberal newspapers of the town; delivered political lectures; made speeches; augmented his stores of knowledge by reading; wrote poems; and prepared and published his volume of "Poems and Lyrics." This work was well received. Shortly after coming to Dundee, he formed an ardent attachment to Miss Alice Suter, a very pretty and amiable girl, who eventually became his wife. His business in Dundee did not flourish, but Nicoll was not a man to yield easily. This appears from a letter dated Feb. 6th, 1836, to his mother,

1837.—DEC.

in which he says "Half the unhappiness of life springs from looking back to griefs which are past, and forward with fear to the future. That is not my way. I am determined never to bend to the storm that is coming, and never to look back on it after it has passed. The more I think and reflect I feel that, whether I be growing richer or not, I am growing a wiser man, which is far better. Pain, poverty, and all the other wild beasts of life which so affright others, I am so bold as to think I could look in the face without shrinking, without losing respect for myself, faith in man's high destinies, and trust in God. There is a point which it costs much mental toil and struggling to gain, but which, when once gained, a man can look down from, as a traveller from a lofty mountain, on storms raging below, while he is walking in sunshine. That I have gained this point in life, I will not say, but I feel myself daily nearer it." From Dundee, Robert Nicoll passed to Edinburgh, where he obtained some temporary employment in Mr. Tait's warehouse. By means of that gentleman, he procured in August, 1836, the situation of editor of the *Leeds Times*, with the narrow salary of £100 a year. After he had been for some time in Leeds, he says in a letter to his brother, "You will see I am speaking boldly out, and the people here like it; and the proprietor of the *Leeds Times* is aware that it is to my exertions he owes the wonderful success of the paper. We are near 3,000, and increasing at the rate of 200 a-week. We are beating both Whigs and Tories in Yorkshire rarely. I like Hobson very much. He never sees the paper till it be printed. I mean to have a higher salary though." In December he went down to Dundee to be married, and soon returned to Leeds with his bride. In his brief career he tasted largely of all the higher enjoyments of life. His was a happy home; but his duties were incessant and harassing. Amidst his engagements he found recreation in writing poetry. He was not long to enjoy existence. He felt the severity of the spring of 1837. The finishing blow to his health was given by the general election in the summer of the same year, when the town of Leeds was contested by Sir William Molesworth, in opposition to Sir John Beckett. Into this contest Nicoll naturally threw himself with his whole heart and soul. As an enthusiastic Radical, as the editor of a liberal newspaper, as a man now looked up to by a considerable portion of the ten-pound electors, and all the intelligent non-electors, he was trebly pledged to this cause; and those



1837.—DEC.

who have contemplated his character, even as it is faintly indicated in this sketch, may imagine the intensity and ardour with which, on this occasion he exerted himself. After a very severe struggle, the cause which he advocated, triumphed in Leeds; but the contest left poor Nicoll in such a state of exhaustion, that his wife afterwards said—that if Sir William Molesworth had failed, Robert would have died on the instant. He was destined to linger on for a few more suffering months. In reply to his mother's anxious inquiry as to his health, he writes as follows:—

LEEDS, *Wednesday, Sept. 13th, 1837.*

“MY OWN DEAR MOTHER,—This morning I received your letter. The ‘kind’ friend who was so particularly kind as to alarm you all out of your senses, need not come to my house again. Before, I did not write you all about my illness, because I did not wish to make you uneasy; but it shall be no longer so. I will tell you how it began—when it began—its progress—its present state.” Having described his case at length, and given the opinions of the medical men, and those of his wife and his mother-in-law, in the manner most likely to soothe the fears of his mother, he, at the same time, owns that he is very weak. He then proceeds to another subject, probably in answer to some message from his venerable and pious grandfather:—“My love to aunt and grandfather; tell both that I do not know how I could better serve my God than by serving my fellow-men. HE gave me a mission, and I trust I have done my best to fulfil it. As for you, dear mother, dear father, I bid you be of good cheer; I shall recover yet, though it will take a while. And if I do not, I trust I am prepared calmly to meet the worst. My life has not yet been a long one, but I have born much sickness—sickness such as opens the grave before men’s eyes, and leads them to think of death; and I trust I have not borne this, and suffered, and thought in vain.”

His illness increased so rapidly that in the autumn he was obliged to quit Leeds. He took leave of his friends, the Reformers of the West-Riding, in a short address, which the deep sincerity of his heart, and the solemn circumstances under which it was written, rendered doubly emphatic.

“TO THE RADICALS OF THE WEST RIDING.”

“BRETFREN!—Ill health compels me to leave your locality, where I have laboured earnestly and sincerely, and I trust not altogether

1837.—DEC.

without effect, in the holy work of human regeneration. I go to try the effect of my native air, as a last chance for life; and, after the last number, I am not responsible for anything which may appear in the *Leeds Times*, having ceased to be the editor of that paper from that date.

"I could not leave you without saying this much, without bidding you, one and all, farewell, at least for a season. If I am spared, you may yet hear of me as a soldier of the people's side: if not, thank God! there are millions of honest and noble men ready to help in the great work. Your cause emphatically is

The holiest cause that pen or sword  
Of mortal ever lost or gained.

And that you may fight in that cause in an earnest, truthful, manly spirit, is the earnest prayer of one, who never yet despaired of the ultimate triumph of truth.

"ROBERT NICOLL."

Returning to Scotland, he found some relief under the wise and kind treatment of Dr. Andrew Combe. Soon, however, his symptoms grew worse, and he died on December 7th, in his 24th year, at Laverock Bank, near Leith. His remains were laid in the churchyard of North Leith, to which place they were attended by a numerous assemblage. He was passionately fond of song and ballad music, and liked to hear his wife chant such ballads as the "Flowers of the Forest;" and alone, by his own fireside, to pour forth his overflowing emotions in musical strains. The poems and songs of Nicoll, some of which are in his vernacular tongue, have given him the name of Scotland's second Burns. They display much of the passionate energy, and a large share of the philanthropy, which characterize the works of the Ayrshire bard.

1838. Jan. In this month, the frost was so intense, that the principal rivers in England were completely frozen over.

Feb. 16th. A very serious explosion of fire damp, took place at the Robin Hood's colliery, belonging to Messrs. Charlesworth, by which several persons were killed, and several others severely injured.

May. The small pox was very prevalent at Wortley, near Leeds, and in many instances proved fatal.

In June, eight coaches came direct to Leeds from London, daily, carrying when full, 32 inside, and 68 outside passengers. 1,477 coaches left London daily for all parts of the kingdom. 248 coaches ran daily out of Manchester to various places; and 154 out of Birmingham.

28th. The coronation of Queen Victoria took place this day. The event was celebrated throughout the kingdom with great splendour and rejoicing.

1838.—July.

July 4th. The southern part of Yorkshire, and part of the county of Lancaster were visited by a terrific storm of thunder and hail, which did immense damage to property and caused a great loss of life. In the neighbourhood of Stainbro', Dodworth, and Silkstone, near Barnsley, the storm was very violent. In the valley of the south-west side of Dodworth, the water rose to such a height that it reached the entrance of a coal-pit in the hill side, belonging to R. Clarke, Esq., called the Moor-Side Pit; the water rushed in, so that in a short time it was filled. A number of colliers were at work in the pit, and twenty-six persons perished in the water, eleven of them females. The damage done to the windows alone, at Wentworth castle, was estimated at £500. All the glass of the green and hot-houses was totally destroyed, as well as their valuable contents. The pineries, frames, flowers, shrubs, &c., were all swept away; and 4000 yards of walling laid prostrate. The whole presented a scene of perfect destruction and devastation. The water swept away timber, trees, walls, bridges, and a quantity of furniture from the houses, coals, tubs, pigs, and clothes from the hedges, and ten beasts from Mr. John Archer, of Saville Hall. It did about £300 worth of damage in Silkstone, to different individuals. The entire village presented the appearance of a complete sheet of water; from one end to the other it was impassible for seven hours.

August 1st. This was an auspicious day for the negroes in the West Indies. It is necessary to explain that four years before, namely, on the 1st of August, 1834, an act was passed to abolish slavery throughout the British dominions. The English government paid the planters, as compensation for this emancipation, twenty millions sterling. The slave was to pay no part of his redemption, but was to be subject to a seven years apprenticeship. After four years experiment the slave had proved himself worthy of being absolutely free, and his freedom was demanded by the people of England. From this day his apprenticeship ceased, and the shackles fell from the limbs of eight hundred thousand men.

September 6th. In a lighthouse on the coast of Northumberland, within view of the Fern Islands, lived a family of the name of Darling. The night of the 6th of September was stormy, and the Forfarshire steam boat, whose boiler was in bad order, struck on one of the Fern Islands, and parted in two. The sea at the time was running very high. Mr. Darling, and his daughter Grace, set out in a

1838.—SEPT.

boat to the perishing crew, and at the imminent danger of their own lives succeeded in saving nine of them. The fact that a young woman had been engaged in this mission of mercy, burst upon the world with astonishing effect, and the name of "Grace Darling" became famous throughout the land.

### LEEDS MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS, 1ST NOVEMBER, 1838.

The names in brackets were elected.

MILL-HILL, [William Hey, jun, C. 270, John Atkinson, C. 266,] William Price, L. 201, O. Willans, L. 197.—WEST, [William Brigg, C. 634, Henry Chorley, C. 621.] Joseph Bateson, L. 604, Chas. Watson, L. 603.—NORTH-WEST, [Ralph Markland, C. 378,] James Robinson, L. 363.—NORTH, [Jas Hargreave, C. 464,] Robt Cadman, L. 455.—NORTH-EAST, [Benjamin Holroyd, C. 426,] Joseph Woodhead, L. 337.—EAST, [J. A. Buttrey, L. 459,] Charles Scarbrough, C. 321.—KIRKGATE, [Thomas England, C. 216,] William Whitehead, L. 169.—SOUTH, [James Coldbeck, L. 303,] Stephen Mitchell, L. 297.—HUNSLET, [Joseph Eckett, C. 638,] John Wilson, L. 442.—HOLEBECK, [Matthew Hall, L. 547, Joshua Wordsworth, L. 546,] John Tempest, jun., C. 492, Anthony Titley, C. 489, John Jackson, R. 56.—BRAMLEY, [Joseph Wood, L. 455, Matthew Moss, jun., L. 450,] John Rogerson, C. 407, John Cooper, C. 399.—HEADINGLEY, [Thomas Charlesworth, C. 2]

Nov. 9th. James Holdforth was elected mayor. The votes were, Holdforth 33; Henry Hall, 20.

Considerable discussion and difference of opinion occurred in the council as to whether Mr. Holdforth was legally qualified to act as mayor, he having omitted to subscribe to the oath required to be taken by Roman Catholics. The opinion of counsel (Mr. Serjeant Merryweather, M. T. Baines, Esq., and Sir W. Follett), was to the effect that the election was valid, and on the strength of this the mayor resumed office. Three of the aldermen elected by the council refused to act in consequence of this decision, and others were appointed in their places.

The following gentlemen were elected aldermen:—William Smith, James Musgrave, J. R. Bywater, James Hubbard, Joseph Bateson; and on the 21st, Obadiah Willans, John Goodman, and Thos. Hebden.

Nov. A serious riot occurred at Todmorden, arising out of an anti-Poor Law agitation.

Dec. 22nd. The average price of wheat for six weeks prior to this date was 78s. per quarter: this included much unsound wheat. Good wheat was from 80s. to 86s. per quarter. The price of corn had not been so high for twenty years.—During the year 1838 a serious rebellion broke out in Canada.

1838-9.

The first stone of St. Ann's Catholic church, at the top of Park-row, Leeds, was laid on the 8th of August, 1837, and the edifice was opened in the year 1838. It was built on the site formerly called Park Terrace, situated at the south end of Cookridge-street and junction of Guildford-street. The style is perpendicular; the spire is 148 feet high. The north window in the chancel is a four-lighted one, filled with stained glass, representing the four Evangelists; the upper tracery with various religious emblems. The south window in the tower is a memorial one, of the original pastor and four other priests, who died during a fearful visitation of fever in 1847. The whole of the side windows have stained glass borders. In the centre of the altar screen are full length figures of the Virgin and the infant Jesus; on one side Bishop Wilfred, and on the other St. Ann. There are six other figures, of angels standing on pedestals, under rich canopied niches. The stalls and pulpit are very beautiful. The church will seat comfortably 800—600 on the ground floor, and 200 in the gallery, in which is the organ. The Very Rev. Canon Browne is the pastor. There is also attached to the church a boy's school, for the accommodation of 500 children, as well as presbytery and master's house. The whole of these buildings were erected under the direction of Mr. John Child, architect, Leeds. The priests' house, adjoining the church, was formerly the residence of the late Benjamin Gott, Esq., having at that time green fields in front of it.

1839. In the year 1829 a foot bridge was made across the river Aire at School Close, Leeds, and in the year 1839 the present structure was completed, for a description of which see page 346 of the "Annals," where the event was wrongly inserted. The first stone was laid in May, 1837; and in the *great* flood in December of that year, the masonry then in progress, and the framework under it, withstood the immense pressure of wreck and devastation which was forced against it in such dense masses, that the flood was compelled to take its course down Water-lane, Meadow-lane, &c. The temporary foot bridge was forced down by an immense iron boiler which floated against it, and both were driven against the frame-work on which the arch was built.

January 7th. A most terrific hurricane swept over England this morning. It was more like a tropical than a mere winter storm in this country. One of the most remarkable proofs of the force of the wind is the fact that at Leeds,

1839—JAN. 7th.

which is 70 miles distant from the Irish sea, there was a saline deposition, which must have proceeded from the spray of the sea, being caught up by the wind, and carried to so great a distance. The salt on the windows was very perceptible to the taste. Many lives were lost in different parts of the kingdom, but fewer than might have been expected, from the numberless downfalls of buildings, chimneys, roofs, &c. The tempest was the most fatal at Liverpool, where no less than *one hundred and sixteen* lives were lost; many ships and vessels were wrecked, swamped, and cast ashore, and many buildings reduced to ruin. The wind was so boisterous during the day in Leeds, that there was nearly a total suspension of business. The tower of Trinity church, Boar-lane, received such serious injury that it had to be taken down, and the present beautiful steeple, 186 feet high, was erected in its place. Immense damage was done to property in all parts of the town. St. George's and St. Ann's churches, both finished and set apart to religious service within a few months, suffered very much. About eight yards of the spire of the former church was blown down. It broke through the roof, and the immense force of the falling stones destroyed a portion of the end of the gallery and a number of the pews below, and even burst through the floor into the vaults beneath! About two yards of the spire of St. Ann's, together with two of the ornamental pinnacles, were blown down, fell through the roof, and did much damage to the interior of the church. The damage done to mill property in the town was extremely large. The high chimney of Mr. Fairbairn's foundry was blown down and through the roof, doing serious damage to the machinery. The chimneys were blown down at the mills of Messrs. Fenton, Murray, and Co., Brown & Co., Bagby; Holroyd, Carlton hill; Marshall & Co., Water-lane; Edward Halliley, Low Close mill, and Mr. Davis, machine maker, New-road-end. At the latter mill the fireman was killed by the fall. Harcourt's machine manufactory, St. Peter's hill, was levelled to the ground. The injury to dwelling-houses was immense, in many cases placing the lives of the inmates in great jeopardy.—In Jan., flour in Leeds was 3s. 10d. a stone.

April 15. A five days debate in the House of Commons concluded by a vote (majority of 22) expressing approbation of the principles on which Ministers had carried on the government of Ireland.

In May the ministry of Lord Melbourne resigned, in consequence of an adverse vote on the bill for suspending the

1839 — MAY.

constitution of Jamaica. Sir Robert Peel was called to office, but owing to Her Majesty refusing to allow a change in her household, resigned, and Lord Melbourne was recalled.——May 1st. Thos. Flower Ellis, jun., Esq., was appointed recorder of Leeds, in the place of Robert Baynes Armstrong, Esq.——14th. The Leeds Soke Act received the royal assent. By this act the inhabitants of the manor of Leeds were discharged from the custom and obligation of grinding their corn or malt at the King's mills, Swinegate, which they had been subject to from a very early period, with a customary toll on malt amounting to a thirty-second part, and on wheat of a-sixteenth part. A compensation of £13,000 was paid to Edward Hudson, Esq., of Roundhay, the proprietor of the King's mills. The soke custom was in force so early as the time of the Crusades, when the houses standing upon land formerly belonging to the Knights Templars, and the Knights of St. John of Jerusalem claimed exemption from the toll by the payment of a trifling septennial demand. The houses thus claiming exemption had stone crosses placed upon the fronts, as may be seen in St. John's-street and Templar-street, &c.

May 27th. Mr. Chas. Shaw Lefevre was elected speaker of the House of Commons, in the place of Mr. Abercromby, resigned, who was called to the House of Peers under the title of Baron Dunfermline.

June 20th. The stock of specie in the bank of England was so low, that the directors raised the rate of interest to  $5\frac{1}{2}$  per cent.——30th. The Manchester and Leeds railway was opened.

July 20th. An act was passed (2 and 3 Vic., c. 85) for the more easy and speedy recovery of small debts and damages within the Honor of Pontefract, which included the towns of Leeds, Bradford, Huddersfield, Pontefract, Birstal, Snaith, Goole, &c., and the district of Saddleworth. This act abolished the Ancient Court Baron of the Honor, and extended the jurisdiction and practice in actions of debt to £15.

July. A public exhibition opened in July and continued until October, at the Music hall, Albion-street, Leeds, for the benefit of the Leeds mechanics' institute. It contained treasures in all the branches of natural history, curiosities, antiquities, philosophical apparatus, models of machines, chemical preparations, manuscripts, paintings, specimens of manufactures, &c. During the three months, about 9,500 persons were admitted by single ticket. The total



1839.—Aug.

receipts were £3,407 17s. 2½d. The balance or profit to the institution, after payment of expenses, was about £1,780.

August 17th. The act, authorizing the establishment of the uniform penny postage, received the royal assent.

29th. The Yorkshire Agricultural Society held its annual exhibition in Leeds.

September 3rd. The foundation stone of East Parade chapel, Leeds, for the congregation that had many years worshipped in Salem chapel, was laid by the Rev. John Ely, assisted by the late Mr. Baines. It is a beautiful stone edifice situated in East Parade. It was opened in January, 1841, and was erected from designs by Messrs. Moffat and Hurst. The style of architecture is the Grecian Doric Order, having a lofty front entrance, with six elegant pillars. The interior is neat, and has two galleries, one above the other. It contains an excellent organ: the schools, vestries, &c., are under the building. The Rev. H. R. Reynolds, B.A., is minister.

September 4th. A meeting, advertized for this evening, at Leeds, under the presidency of the late Edward Baines, Esq., M.P., to take into consideration the best means of extending the objects of the British and Foreign School Society, was completely frustrated by the Chartists proposing Mr. Hobson, the publisher of the *Northern Star*, as chairman. The meeting was held on the 11th inst. in consequence, when the admittance was by ticket.

October 29th. Matthew Guant was appointed alderman of the borough of Leeds, *vice* Dr. Williamson, who had removed from the town.

#### *Leeds Municipal Election Extraordinary.*

February 25th. BRAMLEY WARD, *vice* Clark, insolvent, (John Rogerson, C. 1007,) John Lupton, L. 857.—June 12th. MILL HILL WARD, *vice* Charlesworth, deceased, Charles Lee.

#### LEEDS MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS, 1st NOVEMBER, 1839.

The names in brackets were elected.

MILL-HILL, (Charles Lee and John Cudworth)——WEST, (Richard Bramley, C. 490, John Patrick, C. 483,) George Wood, R. 195.

NORTH-WEST, (John Sykes, C. 85.)——NORTH, (William Watson, jun., L. 484,) James Ward, C. 443.——NORTH-EAST, (Griffith Wright, C. 485,) William Gregory, R. 301.——EAST, (John Cawood, C. 369,) Eli Whiteley, L. 319——KIRKOPATE, (John Simpson, C. 228,) T. B. Pease, L. 209 ——SOUTH, (Stephen Mitchell, L. 7).——HUNSLET, (John Bower, jun., L. 707,) Thomas Harrison. C. 471.——HOLBECK, (Joseph Cliff, L. 834, J. O.

1839.—Nov.

March, L. 831,) John Tempest, jun, C. 794, Anthony Titley, C. 793.  
 BRAMLEY, (John Rogerson, C. 995, Richard Nichols, C. 994,) John Lupton, L. 981, William Musgrave, C. 977———HEADINGLEY, (George Hayward, C. 3.)

November 9th. William Smith was elected mayor.

November. The disastrous intelligence from America of the suspension of specie payments by the United States bank, and most of the other banks in the Union, caused great consternation at Liverpool and Manchester.—A committee of the Leeds Town Council made a statistical inquiry in Nov., as to the population and condition of the *township* of Leeds, from which it appeared that the population of the town was 82,120 persons, namely, 39,411 males and 42,709 females, composed as follows:—married persons, 27,762; single persons, 999; widows and widowers, 2,990; lodgers, 4,283; domestic servants, 4,509; children, 41,577. The number of dwellings was 18,279, of which 16,773 were occupied by English families, 996 by Irish, 70 by families belonging to other countries, and 440 were unoccupied. The number of inns was 216, beerhouses, 235; total, 451. There were 98 houses of ill-fame, and two gambling houses. The passive population was 20,445, leaving the active as 61,675, arranged thus:—Engaged in manufacture by power, 10,663: hand-loom weavers, 1,289; wool-combers, 138; select trades, 13,233. The 40 places of worship afforded accommodation for 47,051 persons—13,255 in the Established churches, 11,160 in Wesleyan chapels, 6,030 in Independent chapels, and 16,626 in chapels belonging to other denominations. There were 154 week-day schools, containing 6,390 scholars; 20 factory schools, containing 360; and the Sunday schools contained 11,429 scholars.—23rd. At an extraordinary meeting of the Privy Council this day, her Majesty announced her intention to ally herself in marriage with Prince Albert of Saxe Cobourg and Gotha.—At the close of the year wheat was from 78s. to 80s. per quarter. At the same time the duty on foreign wheat was 18s 8d. per quarter.

Dec. 5th. The quarterly meeting of the Geological and Polytechnic Society of the West-Riding of Yorkshire was held in the hall of the Leeds Philosophical and Literary Society.

A great many meetings were held during this year, in nearly all the principal towns in England, on the subject of the corn laws. A large meeting was held in the Leeds cloth hall, on Dec. 21st, at which, from eight to ten thousand persons were present, to petition parliament for the repeal

1839—DEC.

of the corn laws.——There were no less than 30,000 persons died of small-pox, in England and Wales, during the two years and a half, ending the 31st of Dec., 1839; besides vast numbers who had been disfigured, and injured in their health.

**DISTRESS, AND CHARTIST RIOTS.**—During the greater part of the year 1839, the operative classes in all parts of the country had to endure many privations, in consequence of the dearness of corn, and tea, and from want of employment, especially in the cotton trade. In the latter part of the year there were at least 10,000 persons out of employment in the borough of Leeds. At Hunslet, especially, the distress was very great. The disaffected and unemployed, in nearly all the principal towns in England exhibited symptoms of riotous conduct. A national Chartist convention was formed in London, and drew up a petition which was carried into the house of commons, on the 14th of June. It was a wonderful document: "a cylinder of parchment, about the diameter of a coach wheel—literally rolled into the house," and signed by upwards of 1,200,000 persons. The petition occasioned a good deal of discussion in the house, when on the 12th of July a committee was moved for, to consider the five points of the petition—universal suffrage—vote by ballot—annual parliaments—paid members of parliament, and abolition of the property qualification; but the committee was refused by a majority of 189, in a house of 281. In the months of July and August, vast quantities of fire-arms were seized, and many persons were arrested for training and drilling to the use of arms. Riots occurred at Birmingham, Manchester, Newcastle, and other places. In Manchester the mob attempted to stop the factories. At Birmingham the rioters tried to fire the town. Shop after shop was broken into, gutted, and set on fire; in an hour and a quarter, no less than seventeen houses were thus treated, and the loss of property was estimated at from £30,000 to £40,000. Several leaders were arrested, and the police and military subsequently dispersed the mob. On the 6th of Nov. a chartist insurrection took place at Newport, in Wales, headed by Frost the chartist magistrate. The rioters to the number of 8,000 took possession of the town. A dreadful conflict ensued, by which several persons were killed, and others severely wounded. Frost, Williams, and Jones, were arrested on a charge of high treason, and after long trials, were found guilty, and sentenced to death; afterwards commuted to

1839-40.

transportation for life. In the beginning of January in the following year, riots occurred at Sheffield, Bradford, and Dewsbury. At Bradford, considerable numbers of men were furnished with fire-arms and pikes, and openly practised military evolutions upon Fairweather-green. After a number of infatuated and imprudent actions, a plan of insurrection was formed, which the police were acquainted with; and about two o'clock on the morning of the 27th of January, 1840, a number of armed men appeared in the Green-market, having taken two of the watchmen of the town prisoners. A signal was to have been given by means of a rocket, for the assembling in the same place of various armed parties, who were at the outskirts of the town awaiting the signal. The police, assisted by a few special constables, succeeded in capturing sixteen of the rioters who were committed to York castle, and most of them sentenced at the ensuing assizes to various terms of imprisonment. In different parts of the country, no less than 232 rioters were convicted of treason and sedition, out of 290, committed. At Leeds there was no popular outbreak on this occasion.

1840. January. Mountjoy, the celebrated pedestrian, performed the wonderful feat of walking 77 miles a day, for six days together——10th. The uniform penny postage came into full operation, and *double* the average number of letters were posted at the Leeds post office this day. In a few weeks the number had increased five fold.——25th. The heavy rain at this time caused the river Aire to overflow. A rapid stream flowed down Water-lane, through Dock-street, and extended far along Meadow-lane and Hunslet-lane, flooding many houses.

February. The House of Commons, on the motion of Colonel Sibthorp, granted to Prince Albert £30,000 a year. By this vote the ministers were left in a minority, they having proposed £50,000.——7th. George Beecroft, Esq., of the Kirkstall Forge Iron Works died, aged 59 years. The deceased was the father of G. S. Beecroft, Esq., one of the present members for Leeds, was a man greatly respected by his fellow-townsmen, and a member of the Town Council for Headingley ward.——10th. Queen Victoria was this day married to Prince Albert. The rejoicings in London were unbounded, and throughout England, Scotland, and Ireland the event excited unmixed gladness and warmth of heart amongst the people.

13th. Thos. Walker, Esq., of Killingbeck-hall, near Leeds, died, aged 74 years.——14th. Benjamin Gott, Esq., of

1840.—FEB.

Armley house, near Leeds, died this day, in the seventy-eighth year of his age. He was born on the 24th of June, 1762, and was the son of a man who, by his energy and talents, raised himself to eminence as a civil engineer. He was educated at Bingley school, and in early life his abilities and amiable disposition endeared him to his school-fellows and friends. He entered, and afterwards became a partner of, the firm of Wormald and Fountaine, woollen manufacturers and merchants, which, by the retirement of the other partners, became eventually the establishment alone of Mr. Gott and his Sons. By his talent, intelligence, and activity, he realized a large fortune. No one in the West Riding stood higher as a man of business. He possessed large stores of information, a vigorous intellect, remarkable decision of character, and a fine taste. He also possessed munificent liberality, great public spirit, perfect uprightness and independence, and an amiable disposition. His death was deeply and universally deplored. In the church dedicated to St. Bartholomew, at Armley, there is a beautiful piece of statuary erected in memory of the deceased, executed by Joseph Gott, Esq., of Rome. It represents the deceased gentleman (life size) reclining on a mattress, in a posture of deep meditation. At the basement is the following inscription:—

“This monument is erected in memory of Benjamin Gott, Esq., of Armley house. Endowed with talents to dignify every relation of life, he maintained with inflexible uprightness the character of a merchant; with impartial justice, the office of a magistrate; and with unshaken confidence, the warmth of friendship. Always ready to promote the welfare of Leeds, and the advocate of its literary, scientific, and charitable institutions, which found in him a judicious adviser, and generous patron. Under the gifts of health and prosperity, and length of days, he exhibited the powers of divine grace in the pure benevolence and holy principles by which he sought to shape his conduct; and relying for salvation, only on the merits of his Redeemer, he calmly resigned his soul into the hands of a merciful Creator, on the 14th of Feb., 1840, in the 78th year of his age.”

15th. The Countess of Harewood died, aged 69 years.  
20th. The Birmingham borough bank stopped payment. There were at this time in England 682½ miles of railway completed and in operation.

April 28th. Mr. Duke, the head police officer of Huddersfield, was murdered by Alexander Maclaughlan Smith. Another police-officer named Dawson was seriously wounded by the murderer.

May 5th. A most painful sensation was produced in London by the murder of Lord William Russell, the uncle

1840.—MAY.

of Lord John Russell. He was found in bed with his throat cut. Courvoisieur, a servant of Russell's, was subsequently tried and found guilty of wilful murder, and executed after having confessed the crime.——11th. Feargus O'Connor, the Chartist leader, was sentenced by the Court of Queen's Bench to eighteen months' imprisonment for the publication in the *Northern Star* of seditious libels inciting to the use of arms.——19th. York Minster was again seriously damaged by fire, supposed to be caused by the carelessness of workmen. The fire was first seen in the north western tower. The nave was entirely stripped of its roof, the belfry reduced to a mere shell, and the bells laid below, having burst through the floor in their fall. The damage was estimated at £30,000.——W. N. Nicholson, Esq., of Roundhay Park, shot by mistake Mr. Thompson, gamekeeper to Stephen Nicholson, Esq. The gamekeeper was keeping watch in front of Mr. Nicholson's house unknown to him, and he supposing that an attempt was being made by thieves to enter the house, fired a gun and killed the keeper. 26th. The House of Commons, by a majority of 123, refused to consider the question of the corn laws.

June 9th. A temperance tea meeting was held in the new mill of Messrs Marshall and Co., Holbeck, when not less than 2,600 persons took tea together.——10th. An attempt was made to assassinate the Queen and Prince Albert during a drive in Hyde Park, by a youth 17 years of age, named Edward Oxford. The assassin deliberately fired two pistol shots at the royal pair. Happily, however, they had a providential escape.——30th. The North Midland, York and North Midland, and the Hull and Selby railways, were opened.

July 8th. The Leeds Zoological and Botanical gardens, Headingley, were opened this day. These gardens were originated by a company of shareholders, for the laudable object of providing recreation for the people. In a pecuniary way the scheme was unsuccessful, and the gardens were sold by public auction on the 18th of Dec., 1843. John Smith, Esq., banker, was the purchaser, at a cost of £6,010. He afterwards sold them to H. C. Marshall, Esq. The gardens have since been open to the public on payment of a small fee for admittance, under the management of Mr. Clapham, who held them on a lease until 1858.——William Reynolds Rothery, rag dealer, Holbeck-lane, was taken out of the river Aire with his throat cut two inches deep. He was supposed to have been barbarously murdered, but by whom was not known.

1840—JULY.

22nd, The Queen Dowager, on a visit to the north, passed through Leeds to Harewood house.

August 5th. Louis Napoleon, with a handful of followers, landed near Boulogne, and raised the standard of revolt. He was captured, and condemned to perpetual imprisonment in a fortress, and most of his accomplices were sentenced to various terms of imprisonment.—7th. A dreadful accident took place on the Hull and Selby railway, near Howden, caused by a piece of iron, the weight of about two tons (which was fastened to a truck by ropes), falling across the line. Five persons were killed, and several others seriously injured.

Sept. 12th. A duel took place between the Earl of Cardigan and Lieut. Tuckett, of the 11th dragoons.—22nd. The Princess Augusta, aunt to her Majesty and daughter of Geo. III., died, aged 72 years.—23rd. An explosion of fireworks took place in a dwelling-house at Halton, near Leeds, by which Dorothy Randall and her daughter were killed.

Oct. Fever, of a typhoid character, appeared to a considerable extent in the neighbourhood of Wortley.

*Leeds Municipal Election Extraordinary.*

January 23rd. SOUTH WARD, *vice* Derham, a bankrupt, (John Wilkinson, L. 343,) Jeremiah Scott, C. 280.—Feb. 14. HEADINGLEY, *vice* Beecroft, deceased, (John Prince, C.)—Feb. 19. BRAMLEY WARD, *vice* Moss, a bankrupt, (William Wilson, C.)

LEEDS MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS, 2nd NOVEMBER, 1840.

The names in brackets were elected.

MILL-HILL, [John Howard, C. 242, Radford Potts, C. 240,] Peter Fairbairn, L. 213, Joseph Richardson, L. 211.—WEST, (William Dove, C. 525, Adam Hunter, M.D., C. 520,) John Heaps, R. 426, George Wood, R. 415.—NORTH-WEST, [William Whitehead, L. 321,] William Dinsley Skelton, C. 339. By the rejection of double votes, Whitehead was declared duly elected, but Skelton was afterwards seated by the court of Queen's Bench.—NORTH, [Thos. Brumfit, L. 306,] Richard Ripley, C. 288.—NORTH-EAST, [Samuel Lawson, C. 514,] John Ayrey, R. 375.—EAST, [Martin Cawood, C. 357,] Israel Burrows, L. 325.—KIRKGATE, [John Garland, C. 207,] J. S. Barlow, L. 198.—SOUTH, [Robert Baker, L. 241,] William Singleton, C. 222.—HUNSLET, [Richd. Pullan, C. 673,] Joshua Bower, R. 650.—HOLBECK, [Jonathan Shackleton, L. 849, John Forster, L. 849,] Anthony Titley, C. 759, John Tempest, C. 759.—BRAMLEY, [John Cliff, L. 983, Joseph Winn, L. 983,] John Yates, C. 963, John Barker, C. 963.—HEADINGLEY, [John Prince, C. 33.]

November 9th. William Smith, Esq., was re-elected mayor



1840—Nov.

21st. The princess royal was born at ten minutes past two p.m.

Dec. 16th. In the chancery suit so long pending between the new and old corporations of Leeds, relative to the £6,500 three per cents, &c, conveyed to trustees of the old corporation, before the passing of the municipal corporation act, so as to prevent the new corporation from getting the same, the Lord Chancellor delivered judgment to the effect that the alienation of the corporate funds was a breach of trust and fraudulent; and directed the defendants immediately to re-imburse the sums alienated, with interest on the same, and to pay the whole of the costs. The money having been distributed amongst charitable institutions of the town, the defendants had to refund the amount out of their own pockets.

1841. St. Luke's church, North-street, Leeds, was erected this year, and was chiefly intended for the use of the soldiers at the barracks. It is a plain but neat structure of stone, erected from designs by Messrs. Perkin and Backhouse. In 1857 the church was enriched by a stained glass window, which consists of three early English lancet lights, the centre one containing medallions of the Crucifixion and the Ascension, on rich mosaic and geometric patterns: the north light contains a full length figure of St. Luke in a panel interwoven with the geometrical design; the south light contains a figure of St. Paul; around all the lights rich foliated borders run, with other rich decorations; the design and execution of the window is in a high style of art. The Rev. C. H. Collier is the incumbent.

According to the census returns of this year, the population of the borough of Leeds was 152,054. In the Leeds township the number of males was 42,660—females 46,081. In the out-townships, males, 31,105—and females, 32,208.

Jan. 7th. The river Aire, and other rivers in Yorkshire were partially frozen over.

July 1st. A series of defeats in the house of commons caused the whig ministry to retire, and parliament was dissolved on the 22nd of June. A general election ensued. At Leeds Mr. Baines announced his intention of retiring from parliamentary life. The liberals brought out Mr. William Aldam, junr., a young barrister, a native of Leeds, and Mr. Joseph Hume, the veteran reformer. The conservatives brought out Mr. William Beckett, the banker, and Lord Jocelyn. The election took place on the 1st of July, and

1841—JULY.

after a severe contest, a candidate of each party was returned—the numbers at the close of the poll being:—

<i>Mr. Beckett,</i>	...	...	...	...	...	(T)	2,076.
<i>Mr. Aldam,</i>	...	...	...	...	...	(W)	2,043.
<i>Mr. Hume,</i>	...	...	...	...	...	(W)	2,033.
<i>Lord Jocelyn</i>	...	...	...	...	...	(T)	1,926.

The disappointment of the liberal party at the loss of Mr. Hume's election, was exceedingly great, as that gentleman was the most popular of all the candidates. To the great disgrace of the parties concerned, a coffin was carried in front of the hustings, on the declaration of the poll, which was openly proclaimed to be a coffin in which Mr. Hume was to be buried.

12th. The West-Riding election resulted in the return of two conservatives. The Hon. John Stuart Wortley and Mr. Edmund Denison were brought out by the conservatives, and Lord Milton and Lord Morpeth by the liberals, and although the two latter received the largest show of hands at the nomination, they suffered a defeat on the poll. The numbers were:

<i>Hon. J. S. Wortley,</i>	...	...	...	...	...	(T)	13,165.
<i>Mr. Denison,</i>	...	...	...	...	...	(T)	12,780.
<i>Lord Milton,</i>	...	...	...	...	...	(W)	12,080.
<i>Lord Morpeth,</i>	...	...	...	...	...	(W)	12,031.

July 4th. Mr. William Dawson, of Springfield terrace, Burmantofts, Leeds, and late of Barnbow, a celebrated local preacher amongst the Wesleyans, died, aged 68 years. He was born on the 30th of March, 1773, at Garforth, near Leeds, and was the eldest child of Luke and Ann Dawson. His father was a small farmer, and colliery steward to Sir Thomas Gascoigne. He was blest with a pious mother from whom he received his first religious impressions. From his earliest youth up to the age of twenty, he regularly attended the church at Berwick-in-Elmet, and although he for some time continued to attend the services of the church, he gradually got in with the Wesleyans until at length he became a local preacher amongst them. At the beginning of the 19th century he had fairly entered upon his work of preaching. In addition to his arduous secular avocations as a farmer, he was most laborious in performing his religious duties. It was not unusual for him to be sowing seed, stacking corn, clipping sheep, &c. on the same day that he was opening a chapel and attending missionary meetings. He neither permitted his farm, the vineyard of the Lord, "nor himself to be fallow and

1841.—JULY

untilled," but laboured hard in each. He was entered on the Wesleyan plan for the year 1801. From the first he was an attractive preacher, and in much requisition both at Leeds and other places in Yorkshire. He preached in 1825 the opening services of Brunswick chapel, Leeds. The anxiety to gain the services of Mr. Dawson became very great, wherever he preached the places of worship were crowded to excess, so that at times he had to preach in the open air so as to accommodate those who could not gain access to the chapels. In February 1836 a project was started in Brunswick chapel for raising by voluntary subscriptions an annuity for Mr. Dawson, so that he might devote the whole of his time to the Wesleyan missions: ultimately £2,000 was raised, with which an annuity of £150 and £20 to his brother in case he should survive, was provided, the condition being that he was to devote six months of the year to the missionary cause, leaving him to employ the other six as he might think fit. He then gave up his farm and came to reside at 6, Springfield terrace, Burmantofts. On the 30th of March, 1840, he left Leeds for Liverpool, and set sail for Ireland on April 1st, to exercise his missionary labours. On his return he travelled very much in the south of England, but was not permitted much longer to prosecute his religious work. On the 3rd of July, 1841, he left Leeds for Colne in Lancashire, where he died very suddenly about two o'clock on the following morning, in the 69th year of his age. As a preacher he was most impressive, "eccentric in a high degree, but when he preached, strong convulsions rocked alike the pulpit and the pew. A wonderful variety of cadences; alternately rolling with the thunder and flashing with the lightning; exhibiting the lion and the lamb in the same discourse." In the year 1854 a very neat tablet in memory of the deceased, erected by Mr. Dennis Lee, was placed in St. Peter's Wesleyan chapel, Leeds, bearing the following inscription:—

"This monument is erected as a testimony of grateful affection to the memory of Mr. William Dawson, who fell asleep in Jesus, July 4th, 1841, aged sixty-eight years. From an early period of life, when he found the pearl of great price, he pursued a consistent and exemplary course of Christian godliness. As a preacher of the gospel he was eminently distinguished by the author of every good gift; his sermons were most humorous and impressive, richly fraught with pure evangelical truth, abounding with vivid and striking illustrations, and pointed with extraordinary force and effect to the hearts and consciences of his hearers. As an advocate of Christian missions, and of other enterprises of religion and charity, he was singularly zealous,

1841.—JULY.

able, and successful. He was a generous and faithful friend, happy in all his social intercourse, and remarkable for his kindly attentions to the young. He continued to prosecute his indefatigable labours, notwithstanding the rapid advance of age, until he passed suddenly but in peaceful confidence, to his rest! He expired at Colne, in the county of Lancaster, and was interred at Barwick in Elmet." "Not I, but the grace of God."

5th. An appalling accident occurred at Mashro', near Rotherham, by the upsetting of a vessel belonging to Mr. Chambers, during the process of launching. One hundred persons were precipitated into the water; sixty-four of whom lost their lives.

August. Trade was very bad at Manchester and Paisley. At the latter place five and twenty firms failed in two or three days. Indeed throughout the country the trading classes suffered most severely. Corn had risen in six weeks from 63s. 5d., to 68s. 2d., and was still rising fast.

28th. Her majesty's ministers were defeated by a majority of 330 to 239. The cabinet on the same day resigned, and was succeeded by a ministry with Sir Robert Peel as first Lord of the Treasury.

Sept. 2nd. LEEDS PARISH CHURCH.—The solemn and imposing ceremony of re-opening and consecrating the church of St. Peter, situate in Kirkgate, which had been rebuilt by the voluntary contributions of the inhabitants at a cost of £29,770 6s. 8d., took place on Thursday the 2nd of September, in the presence of the archbishop of York, the bishop of Ripon, the bishops of Ross and Argyll, and New Jersey, as well as hundreds of dignitaries and other clergy from every diocese in England, and several thousands of every rank, age, and calling, among the laity forming altogether a scene of unusual splendour and solemnity. When Dr. Hook, the late vicar was appointed to the living of the church, the attendance on the services so much increased, that it became a matter of necessity to provide more accommodation for public worship. The pulling down of the old fabric commenced the week after Ash-Wednesday, 1838; from which time the parochial service was transferred to St. John's church. The whole of the church was taken down and re-built, with the exception of a portion of the south wall. The present edifice is built as nearly as possible on the site of the old one, and is a monument to the skill of the architect, R. D. Chantrell Esq., as well as to the liberality of the town. The style is that of the latter part of the 14th century, a transition from the decorated to the perpendicular, con-

1841.—SEPT.

taining a variety of form and interest, and producing a strong contrast with the dull massiveness of the former structure. The church is 180 feet 7 inches long, by 86 wide; and the height of the tower 139 feet. A new south porch was erected, the south transept extended twelve feet, the chancel extended eastward to the site of the old vestry, and separate entrances contrived to the new vestry and robing rooms for the clergy and choristers. Over the door at the end of the north transept, rises the noble tower of the church, a rich and elegant object, greatly exceeding both in height and beauty of style that of the old church. The tower contains a new peal of remarkably powerful and sweet-toned bells, thirteen in number. The weight of the tenor bell is 35 cwt. 1 qr. 9 lbs., and the weight of the entire peal is 162 cwt. The bells were cast by Messrs. Mears and Sons, London, from designs by W. Gawkröger of Leeds. On entering the church, through the deeply recessed north doorway, (its inner porch forming a rich canopied arch, terminated with an old statue of St. Peter, and having the angles buttressed and pinnacled,—its lofty and in part groined roof, supported on an arcade of eight pillars and arches on each side,) the eye rests upon a screen of richly carved oak, separating the opposite transept from the nave: within this screen the organ is placed, but no part is open to the view. It stands upon the floor of the church, and rises within the transept considerably above the level of the galleries, the pinnacles and other carved work of the screen surmounting the whole, and producing a fine effect. The organ is nearly new. The whole of the chests, bellows, four composition pedals, &c., are entirely new, and also the exterior handsome case. It consists of about 2,070 pipes, of which 1,212 belong to the great organ, 336 to the swell, and 522 to the choir. This noble instrument was re-opened by Dr. Samuel Sebastian Wesley. Mr. R. S. Burton is the present organist and choir master.

The first organ was built by Mr. Price, of Bristol, in 1714. A few years after the swell was added, the scale of which was from G to F in alt. In 1815 the organ was nearly renewed by the late Mr. Greenwood, and was for some years afterwards considered one of the sweetest in Yorkshire. It was, however, so injured by incompetent persons about the year 1827 that its original sweetness and brilliancy were entirely destroyed, and at least half its power was taken away. The injured pipes were either restored to their original power and brilliancy, or replaced by new ones.

The choir of the church was organized by the late vicar,

1841.—SEPT.

and is second to none. The full cathedral service is perhaps more beautifully and impressively performed here than in the metropolitan church of Canterbury itself. The late Mrs. Carr, of Knostrop, left the sum of £4,000 to be invested in government securities, the interest of which is applied in apprenticing out boys who may have sung in the Leeds parish church choir. The chancel is approached by seven steps, and the low open screen-work at the altar is of stone, and has a very light and elegant appearance. The altar, which stands from the wall, has a covering of royal purple velvet, on the middle of which is a richly embroidered monogram, the gift of her late majesty the Queen Dowager. The commandment tables are also of stone, richly enshrined, having the letters of the 14th century rubricated. In the centre is a carved stone frame, in which is a fine picture, of the school of Correggio, representing Christ's Agony in the garden, presented by the Rev. Isaac Spencer of York. The grand east window is adorned with rich stained glass, representing the Crucifixion, the Virgin, St. John the Evangelist, St. Matthew, St. Bartholomew, St. Peter, &c. The windows of the altar recesses are also of stained glass, as well as the north and south-east windows. The three former were presented by Thos. Blayds, Esq. The ancient cover of the piscina of the 14th century is placed in the south-east wall of the chancel, and is converted into a monument to Thoresby, the antiquary; and in the north-east corner of the chancel is a monument to the memory of the Rev. Richard Fawcett, M.A., late vicar of Leeds. The lectern, whence the lessons are read, is of wood, in the form of an eagle, with outspread wings, and stands at the south side of the choir. The communion service is of silver gilt. Against the south-east pillar of the nave is placed the pulpit, which is of wood, elaborately carved in subjects, viz., the Annunciation, the adoration of the Shepherds, and the baptism of our Saviour. The galleries are supported by small iron pillars, placed behind, and independent of the stone pillars which support the clerestories and roof. The front of the galleries is richly carved, so as to resemble the tabernacle work over the stalls of a cathedral. The pews were allotted to former owners, and the whole of the ground floor is free. The seats have stall ends and no doors. Stalls are provided for the clergy, the choristers, and the corporation. Altogether there are 3,000 sittings, 1,800 of which are free. The great west window is also richly adorned with stained glass, containing the arms of the bishop of the

1841.—SEPT.

diocese, the Rev. R. Fawcett, M.A., late vicar, and the patrons of the living. The south-west window contains the arms of the borough, and those of the Rev. Peter Haddon, M.A., formerly vicar of the parish. There are several beautiful and costly monuments erected in the church, but it is unnecessary here to enumerate them, as they are described in other parts of this work. The vicarage is valued at £1300 per annum. During the rebuilding of the church an accident occurred by the scaffolding of the tower giving way, by which a workman named Southeran was killed.—In 1089 the advowson of the parish church was given by Ralph Paganel to the priory of the Holy Trinity at York. Owing to contentions between the incumbents and the patrons, respecting the appropriation of tithes, Walter Gray, archbishop of York, put an end to the controversy by the ordination of a vicarage in the church. The priory of the Holy Trinity was dissolved A.D. 1538 by the prior and the priests. The advowson was then granted by letters patent to Thomas Culpepper, Esq.; his son Alexander disposed of it to Rowland Cowick of London; he in the 5th of Elizabeth passed it to Thomas Preston; he eleven years afterwards sold it to Edmund Darnley of London, haberdasher. Oliver Darnley sold it for £130 to the parishioners, and the gift is now in the hands of twenty-five trustees. The first protestant vicar of Leeds was Alexander Fascet, or Fawcett. Robert Cooke, a native of Kirk Beeston, in this parish, a powerful disputant and a most acute and learned critic, was the first after Fascet. After his death in 1614, some difficulty occurred relative to the advowson, which was decided by Lord Bacon, who arranged the number and the names of the electing trustees, and under whose patronage Alexander Cooke, the brother of the preceding clergyman, was inducted to the living. He died in 1632 and was succeeded by Henry Robinson, the son of Mr. Alexander Robinson merchant of Leeds, and Grace, the sister of the celebrated Harrison. Peter Saxton was the next vicar, and he was succeeded by William Styles. Dr. John Lake, afterwards bishop of Chichester, succeeded after the restoration, and after his translation, the following clergymen followed. Marmaduke Cook, D.D. who died 1684—John Milner, A.B. resigned 1689—John Killingbeck, B.D., another native of the parish, who died 1716—Joseph Cookson, also a native of Leeds, and previously lecturer, who died 1745—Samuel Kershaw, A.M. followed in the vicarage, and died 1786—Peter Haddon, A.M. the only



1841.—SEPT.

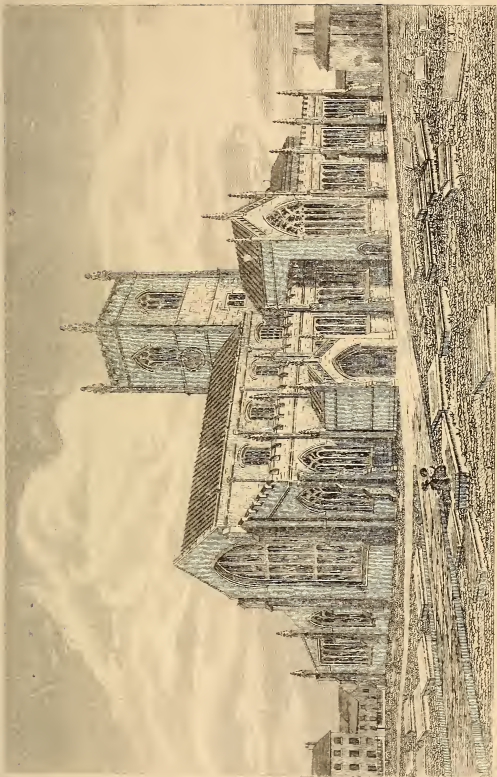
person who since the purchase of the advowson had been vicar of Leeds, who was not a native of the West-Riding of Yorkshire, died 1815—and was succeeded by Richard Fawcett, A.M., he died 1837, and was succeeded by W. F. Hook, D.D. who on being appointed dean of Chichester, in 1859, was succeeded by James Atlay, D.D.

The following is a list of the vicars :—

1242 Alanus de Shirburn	1556 Chr. Bradley
1250 Johannes de Feversham	1559 Alex Fascet
1281 Galfridus de Sponden	1590 Rob. Cooke
1316 Gildbertus Gaudibus	1614 } Alex. Cooke, Archiep. per
1320 Alan de Berewick	1615 } laps.
William Brunby	1632 Henric Robinson
1392 W. Mirfield	1646 Peter Saxton
1394 Johannes Snagtall	1652 Wm. Styles
1408 Rob. Paselow	1661 Johannes Lake, D.D.
Rob. Newton	1663 Marmaduke Cooke, D.D.
1418 Wm. Saxton	1677 Johannes Milner, A.B.
1424 Johannes Herbert	1690 Johannes Killingbeck, B.D.
Jacobus Bagully	1715 Josephus Cookson, M.A.
1430 Thos. Clarel	1746 Samuel Kirshaw, D.D.
1470 Wm. Evre	1786 Peter Haddon, M.A.
1482 Johannes dei gratiæ Ross-	1815 Richard Fawcett, A.M.
ensis Episcopus	1837 W. F. Hook, D.D.
1499 Martomis Collimis Decr. Dr	1859 James Atlay, D.D.
1500 Rob. Wranwast, B.A.	
1508 Wm. Evre	
Johannes Thomson	
Johannes Thornton	

As a conclusion to this sketch it will be interesting to give Thoresby's very pleasing account of the *old church*.

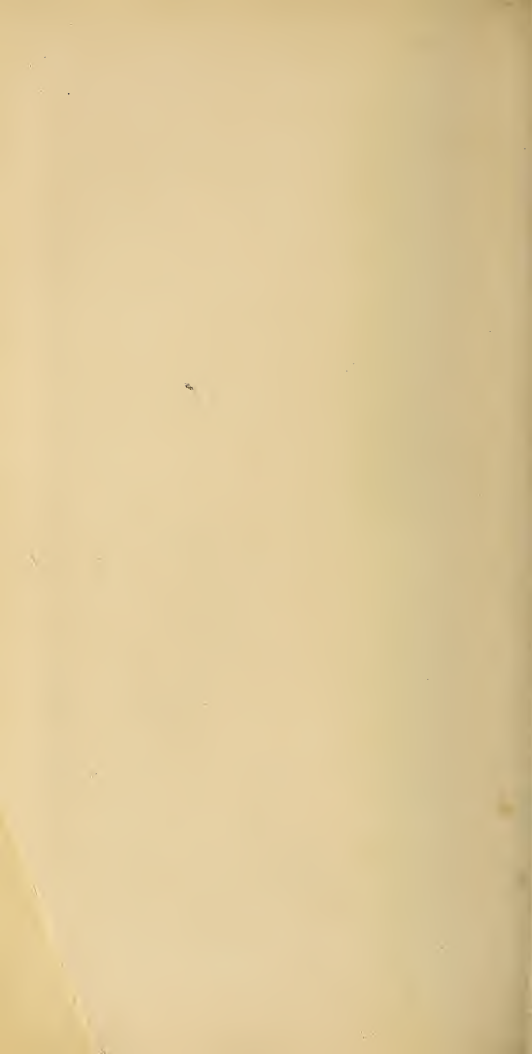
"The parish church (which is dedicated to St. Peter) is a very spacious and strong fabrick, an emblem of the church militant, black, but comely, being of great antiquity; it doth not pretend to the mode of reformed architecture, but is strong and useful. That there was a church here during the Saxon heptarchy, when the kings of Northumberland had their palace here, is more than probable; but 'tis indisputable, that in William the Conqueror's time there was, above 600 years ago, for that Domesday Book (which I had the perusal of, by the favour of my honour'd and kind friend Peter le Neve, Esq. Norroy King at Arms) says expressly *ibi est ecclesia et presbiter, &c.* and some parts of the present church may be said to be of that antiquity, but it was so far from being built with that exhibition, that Sardanapulus (son of Pull King of Assyria, thence called Sardan-Pull) built his cities, two of which his epitaph says he built in one day, that it is evidently the work of ages, which have added both to its length, breadth, and height. The fabrick of this church is plain, but venerable; the walls wholly of free-stone, the roof entirely cover'd with



Published by Joseph Johnson.

Henry de Ponce.

*South East View of the Leeds Parish Church in 1847.*



1841.—SEPT.

lead, except that part of the quire only that belongs to the impropriator. It is built after the manner of a cathedral, with a large cross isle, and the steeple or tower in the middle of it. The dimensions of the church are, length 165 foot, breadth 97; height of the nave of the church, 51, and of the steeple 96. The steeple is a square tower, without spire, built rather for strength than beauty, and contains eight large bells (besides the Tintinnabulum) which ring in peal, and wherewith may be rung 40,320 changes, and which chime day and night, at 4, 8, and 12; but what is most surprising to strangers, is the spaciousness of the quire or chancel, which is within the walls as much above 88 foot one way, as it wants of 60 the other. And to add one word more, this is monthly fill'd for the most part, twice round with devout communicants, one of the most blessed prospects this world affords, besides much greater numbers upon publick festivals. The roof of the church is supported by three rows of solid pillars of the gothic order. In the nave of the church are four isles, that run from the cross isle to the west end, where is a stately font; 'tis gilt and painted, and stands upon an ascent of three steps, surrounded with rails and banisters. The body of the church is very well pawed with English oak, and regular till of late years, that some seats are advanced at the west end, and more remote parts, for persons of distinction not before provided for; those for the mayor, aldermen, and the vicar, are raised at the east end; and under the north wall, that for the master and mistress of the charity school, with 40 poor boys and girls decently clad in blue. Upon the north and east are spacious galleries of wainscot, wrought with variety of work, directly opposite to the pulpit, which is adorned with a black velvet cloth and gold fringe, are the town's arms, betwixt two gilt maces in relievo. At the meeting of the great middle isle with the large cross isle, the steeple is founded upon four prodigiously large pillars and arches; the north cross isle is called the Queen's, the south seems to have been the chapel of St. Katharine's, where the place for holy-water is yet to be seen. And against one of these pillars stood the pulpit in days of yore, when there were no seats in the nave of the church; for before the reformation there were no pews or different apartments allowed, but the whole body of the church was common, and the assembly promiscuous or intermixed, in the more becoming postures of kneeling or standing. The chief glory of this church is, that upon the Lord's day it is generally filled with a vastly great and attentive congregation, which is the most comfortable sight, a pious christian can behold; though on the other hand it must be acknowledged, that the thinness of the auditory upon the week-days constant prayers, and occasional sermons, bodes ill, and ought to be resented with the deepest concern."

On Monday September 28th, the Lord Bishop of Ripon consecrated a large piece of ground, attached to Hill House Bank National School, in East-street, Leeds, as a church of England cemetery.

Oct. 13th. A most interesting series of meetings were held at this time, to celebrate the opening of the New

1841.—Oct.

Hall of the Leeds Mechanics' Institution, South Parade. In June of the following year, the Mechanics' Institution amalgamated with the Literary society.—Oct. From the report of the 'Operative Enumeration Committee' on the condition of the poor in the borough of Leeds; it appeared that out of 4,752 families examined, consisting of 19,936 individuals, 3,780 were in work, and 16,156 were out of work; the average earnings per head being 11d $\frac{1}{2}$ . weekly for each individual.

*Leeds Municipal Election Extraordinary.*

March 8th. MILL-HILL Ward, [J. G. Uppleby.]

LEEDS MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS, 1st NOVEMBER, 1841.

The names in brackets were elected.

MILL-HILL, [Edwin Birchall, L. 376, William Smith, L. 375,] William Hey, C. 374, John Atkinson, C. 373——WEST, [William Kelsall, L. 674, Peter Fairbairn, L. 673,] Christopher Dove, C. 601, Henry Chorley, C. 599. P. Fairbairn afterwards resigned.

NORTH-WEST, [William Whitehead, L. 471,] Ralph Markland, C. 350.——NORTH, [John Holmes, L. 455,] S. B. Hargreave, C. 371——NORTH-EAST, [Jas. Dufton, R. 593,] Benjamin Holroyd, C. 586——EAST, [J. R. Atkinson, C.]——KIRKGATE, [J. S. Barlow, L. 254,] Thos. England, C. 253——SOUTH, [Jonathan Dickinson, L.]——HUNSLET, [Joshua Bower, R. 716,] Joseph Beckett, C. 560——HOLBECK, [Matthew Hall, L. 874, H. C. Marshall, L. 873,] John Tempest jun. C. 603, Anthony Titley, C. 602——BRAMLBY, [John Barker, C., and Wm. Waioman, C.]

HEADINGLEY, [Thomas Butler, C.]

Nov. 9th. Mayor:—William Pawson.

The following gentlemen were appointed aldermen:—

Oct. 29th, Henry Hall. Nov. 9th, George Goodman, Hamer Stansfeld, Thos. Wm. Tottie, William Pawson, Thomas Benson Pease, Darnton Lupton, John Darnton Luccock, and John Jackson.

Nov. 9th. Prince of Wales born at 48 minutes past 10, a.m.——22nd. An explosion of fire damp took place in Mount Osborne pit, Barnsley, by which fifteen persons lost their lives.——22nd. The friends and constituents of the late Mr. Baines, publicly presented to him at the Music hall, a splendid and lasting testimonial of their esteem on his retirement from parliamentary life. Mr. Tottie presided. The testimonial consisted of a very handsome silver service. The following is the description published by the committee:—

“The present consists of a Candelabrum or centre piece for the

1841.—Nov.

dining table 31 inches high, and four silver covered dishes, richly ornamented *en suite*, weighing together 575 ounces. From the base of the Candelabrum, which is triangular, presenting three faces or tablets, rises a group of palm trees, from the foliage of which spring six branches to hold lights. These are surmounted by a highly wrought bowl, with a border of oak leaves and acorns. Three figures representing Truth, Liberty, and Justice, very beautifully executed in frosted silver, occupy the three corners of the base, and give an extremely chaste and elegant finish to the design. On one of the tablets is a well-executed landscape in bas relief, with emblems of agriculture in the foreground, and a railroad in the distance. The second is occupied by a printing press (identified with the *Mercury* by a *caduceus*), a merchant vessel, woolsacks, bales of cloth, and other appropriate emblems of commerce and manufactures. The remaining tablet bears the following inscription:—"Presented to Edward Baines Esq. by his friends and fellow-townsmen, in admiration of the integrity, zeal, and ability with which he has advocated the principles of civil and religious liberty, during a public life of more than forty years; and to evince their gratitude for his important services as the faithful and indefatigable representative of the borough of Leeds in three successive parliaments. Leeds, November, 1841."

24th. The Earl of Harewood, Lord-lieutenant of the West-Riding of Yorkshire, dropped down dead, whilst returning from the chase. The deceased Earl was in his 74th year, being born on Christmas day, 1767. He married in 1794, Henrietta, eldest daughter of Lieut. Gen. Sir John Saunders Sebright, Bart., who died in 1848, and by whom he had a large family. He was succeeded by his eldest surviving son Henry.——25th. Sir Francis Chantrey, the eminent sculptor died, aged 60 years. He was a native of Morton, near Sheffield.

Dec. 1st. George Birkbeck, M.D. a natural philosopher and practical philanthropist, died aged 64. He was born at Settle, in Yorkshire, in 1776. He displayed an early predilection for mechanical and scientific subjects, commenced the study of medicine, in 1799 began to lecture as professor in the Andersonian institution, Glasgow; opened a course of scientific instruction for persons engaged in the practical exercises of the mechanical arts, which became very popular; in 1806 settled in London, and soon obtained a good practice as a physician; in 1820 gave a gratuitous course of lectures at the London institution, laboured to promote popular education among un-instructed adults and youths, took a leading part in the foundation of the London Mechanics' institution, of which he was elected president, and held the office until his death. On the 20th of Feb., 1824, he delivered an inaugural address, on the opening of

1841—Dec.

the institution. His studies and services on behalf of human improvement ceased only with his useful and benevolent life.

13th. A public meeting of deputies from the trades of the West-Riding was held at Leeds. It was shown beyond doubt by several speakers that a vast amount of distress prevailed throughout the country. The average prices of grain per quarter for the year 1841, were:—wheat, 64s. 5d.; barley, 33s.; oats, 22s. 5d.; beans, 39s. 1d.; peas, 40s. 5d.

1842. The second commission of justices of the peace for the borough of Leeds, (see 1837) was renewed. The following gentlemen were also placed on the commission:—

Joseph Robert Atkinson, Richard Bramley, Henry Hall, Ralph Markland, William Gilyard Scarth, Anthony Titley, John Gylby Uppleby, John Wilson and Griffith Wright.

During the months of January, February, and March, about 4,000 families, comprising upwards of 16,000 individuals were on the books of the Leeds workhouse, as receiving parochial aid, in addition to which 10,000 persons had been recipients from the relief fund of £7,000, raised by voluntary subscriptions.——The Baptist chapel, North-street, Leeds, was erected this year. It is a plain brick structure, and will accomodate about 1200 hearers.

The report of the commissioners on the employment and condition of children in *coal mines*, published this year showed a revolting system of early slavery. It was shown that children of both sexes were employed indiscriminately at the earliest ages, even at three years of age; that men worked quite naked, and that adolescent females were employed in the same alleys, and even in the same places; that many of the places of work were of the worst description, both as to ventilation and humidity; that in Scotland, the labour to which females were subjected was beyond any slavery ever heard of; that the system of apprenticeship adopted with regard to the dependent and friendless children in workhouses, was dishonest and degrading. This state of things caused the Legislature to prohibit the employment of women and girls in mines and collieries, and to regulate the employment of boys, and make provisions for the safety of persons working therein.

The Chimney Sweeper's act came into operation on the 1st of July, this year, by which it was enacted, "that any person who shall compel or knowingly allow any child or young person, under the age of twenty-one years, to ascend or descend a chimney, or enter a flue for the purpose of sweeping, cleansing, or coring the same, or for extinguishing fire therein, shall be liable to a penalty of not more than £10, or less than £5."



1842.—JAN.

January. Joseph and Samuel Clough, twins, born at Pudsey on the 28th of June, 1821; were christened together at the parish church at Leeds, they each took the same illness, and died at the same time, early this year.

From documents published at this time, it appeared that there were in the township of Leeds 7304 individuals living on an income of 1s. 7½d. per week each. A Relief Fund was speedily raised by a number of benevolent gentlemen, which proved to be very useful in mitigating the sufferings of the poor.

March 30th. A large and influential meeting of electors was held at the Leeds Music-hall, on the subject of the proposed Income Tax, when resolutions were passed strongly condemning the tax.——31st. The election of churchwardens for Leeds resulted in the return of all working men, said to be Chartists.

April. News arrived from India of the massacre and dreadful disasters of the British army at Cabool. It was estimated that 100 British officers and 5,000 to 6,000 soldiers, with an equal number of camp followers fell victims either to the inclemency of the season, or to the sword of the enemy.

25th. Mr. Robert Baker, of Leeds, gave evidence before a select committee of the house of commons, which was confirmed by the vicar's churchwarden; showing the number of graves in the three parochial burial grounds belonging to the churches of St. Peter and St. Mary, in the township of Leeds to be 9,600, as follows:—

	Measurement.			No. of Graves.		
St. Peter's church yard, --	--	1a.	0r. 18p.	--	--	1,978.
"    new burial ground, --	--	2	0 12	--	--	3,689.
St. Mary's burial ground, --	--	2	0 34	--	--	3,933.
		<hr/>				
		5	1 24			<hr/>
		<hr/>				<hr/>
						9,600.

In these graves he stated that there had been interred 142,293 corpses. In July following an act was obtained empowering the town council to provide a new burial ground, and with the consent of the Bishop of Ripon to close the old parish places of interment. The new ground provided by the town council at Burmantofts, was opened in August, 1845, for the burial of the dead, but owing to a dispute respecting the fees to be paid to the vicar and the clerk in orders but few interments took place therein, and the old grounds continued to be used until the 30th of November,

1842.—MAY.

1847, when the bishop of the diocese on the recommendation of the vicar, consented to the closing of those places.

May 3rd. The great chartist petition, said to have contained the signatures of 3,315,752 persons, (of which Leeds contributed 41,000) was presented to the house of commons. The commons by a majority of 238 decided that the petitioners should not be heard at the bar of the house to prove the allegations of their petition.——4th. The Leeds town council resolved to erect a borough gaol.——5th. A great part of the city of Hamburg was destroyed by fire, which raged from Wednesday till the Sunday following, and destroyed about 1,500 houses. The property destroyed was estimated at £7,000,000 sterling.——7th. The island of St. Domingo was visited by an earthquake. Nearly 20,000 persons perished in the convulsion. The town of Cape Haytien entirely disappeared, and with it 10,000 of its inhabitants.——11th. The Queen directed a letter to be read in all churches and chapels, on the subject of the general distress which was to be followed up by collections the week after, at the dwellings of the parishioners by the churchwardens and overseers.——30th. A person named John Francis attempted by firing a pistol to assassinate the Queen. He was subsequently found guilty of high treason. His life was spared by her majesty, and on the very day on which this became known (in July) another attempt was made on the life of the Queen by a man named John Wm. Bean.

31st. The Income Tax passed the house of commons by a large majority.

June 29th. An important meeting of the shopkeepers and tradesmen of Leeds, was held in the Court-house “to enable them publicly to make known the unparalleled distress which prevailed in the borough, and the gradual decay of trade consequent thereon; and to adopt such measures relative thereto as might be deemed advisable, regardless of all party considerations, with a view to avert impending ruin.”

July 12th. The Leeds Improvement bill, and the Leeds Burial Ground bill passed the house of commons. The town council by the former act received very extensive powers to make improvements, to remove nuisances, and to borrow money, &c.

August. Prince George of Cambridge was in Leeds at this period, as Colonel of the 17th Lancers.——The Manufacturers’ Relief committee in London sent £500 to the committee for the relief of the poor in Leeds.

1842.—Aug.

August 17th. — CHARTIST RIOTS AND PLUG-DRAWING :— During this year trade of every kind was very much depressed, and there was in consequence a severe and wide spread distress amongst the people. In the middle of August it had arrived at its height. In Carlisle a fourth part of the population was dying of famine. In Stockport half the master spinners had failed, and 5,000 workmen were walking the streets in compulsory distress. In Lancashire the distress was enormous, and the evil was aggravated by a general turn-out in several branches of trade. In the principal towns of the West-Riding the working classes had to endure many privations. At Leeds the pauper stone heap amounted to one hundred and fifty thousand tons, and the guardians offered the paupers 6s. per week for doing nothing, rather than 7s. 6d. per week for stone-breaking. The poor rates in Leeds had increased 50 per cent. The misery of the working classes made them turbulent and dissatisfied. Formidable chartist riots broke out in Lancashire and Yorkshire. The riots are said to have first commenced at Staly-bridge. The power-loom weavers of that town who were unemployed, or on the strike, compelled all other branches of trade in the town and neighbourhood to follow their example. Most of the principal towns in Lancashire caught the contagion. In Manchester above 150 cotton mills, besides an equal number belonging to other trades in which were usually employed 50,000 hands were forced to stop work. The rioters in many cases destroyed valuable machinery. By the middle of August the insurrection had spread into Yorkshire. Holmfirth, Dewsbury, Huddersfield, Halifax, Bradford, Leeds, and other towns were the scenes of riotous proceedings. On the morning of the 17th, the greatest excitement prevailed in Leeds from a report that a vast number of rioters were on the road from Bradford. The town of Leeds was well organized with troops, and a large number of special constables had been sworn in ; perhaps a knowledge of this fact had caused the rioters to confine their operations to the villages west of the town. At Stanningley they stopped the mill of Mr. John Varley, and forced the workpeople to leave the premises. They then proceeded to Branley, and closed all the mills in that village, including the large establishment of Mr. John Haley. They next visited Fulneck, and stopped the mill of Messrs. Field, and what was still worse let off the reservoir. They then divided themselves into parties, and went to the mills at Armley, Wortley, Farnley, &c., which they caused to be closed. In the mean-

1842.—Aug.

time a large mob had assembled at Hunslet, and commenced operations by turning out the hands at Messrs. Petty's potteries; after which they went along Holbeck moor to the mills in Holbeck. They forced in the boiler plug, and summonsed the hands out of the mill of Messrs. E. and G. Tatham, Holbeck-lane. They did the same thing at several other mills until they arrived at the large establishment of Messrs. Marshall. The vicinity of the new mill in Marshall-street was completely crammed with an excited mob, many of whom were armed with bludgeons, stones, &c. The yard-door leading to the boilers of the new mill, was strongly barricaded and defended by Mr. J. G. Marshall, and a number of workmen; but the mob by repeated efforts forced down the door, and rushed into the yard. They could not find the plug of the boiler, and consequently did not succeed in stopping the mill. They left the premises without having done any serious mischief, and then proceeded to the mill of Messrs. Titley, Tatham, and Walker, Water-lane, which they were engaged in stopping when Prince George with the Lancers came up at full speed, and formed in line in Camp-field. The riot act was read, and two or three of the ringleaders were taken prisoners. A party of Lancers, a party of Fusileers, and one or two troops of Yorkshire Hussars, commanded by Colonel Beckett, with a body of police headed by one or two magistrates were also stationed on Victoria bridge. The crowd in the presence of the military, showed no symptoms of being turbulent beyond the mere excitement of a mob. Prince George withdrew the troops to the Court-house; scarcely had they gone when a considerable mob went off in the direction of Meadow-lane, where they burst in the boiler plug of Messrs. Benyon's flax mill and compelled the workpeople forthwith to leave the premises. They then proceeded to the establishment of Messrs. Maclea and March, Machine-makers, Dewsbury-road end. A party of police and special constables were soon on the spot, and had to use great exertions in preventing the rioters from doing serious mischief as they had then become very excited. Showers of stones flew about the heads of the police, and the scene altogether presented a most warlike aspect. Mr. Read, the chief-constable especially showed the greatest gallantry in repulsing and keeping off, single-handed, a number of persons who made an attack upon him. The arrival of Prince George with the Lancers and other troops, restored tranquility. Shortly after the affray at Messrs. Maclea and March's, 38 prisoners were escorted to the Court-house by the

1842.—Aug.

military, and forthwith examined by the magistrates. The prisoners names were :—Jonathan Hirst, Robert Ellis, Reuben Wormald, Peter Fitzsimmons, William Howard, James Firth, Morris Davis, William Flesher, Joseph Heaton, John Darnbrough, Joseph Smith, James Speight, James Middleton, John Haddock, Francis Stead, George Oates, Charles Wilkinson, James Longstaff, William Baxter, John Heywood, Thomas Briggs, Joseph Armitage, Thomas Chester, George Coupland, William Perigo, John Christie, Thomas Rinder, Joseph Hogg, John Land, Joseph Davies, — Skilbeck, Peter Farrell, Joseph Brook, John Rodley, Joseph Hardy, William Hardy, Henry Freeman, William Atkinson. The prisoners Brook, Davies, Farrell, and Wormald were bound over to keep the peace, and fined £5 each. Rodley and the two Hardy's were also bound over to keep the peace. Middleton, Freeman, and Atkinson were discharged. The rest were committed to York for trial. The following were also committed to York for being concerned in riots at Churwell, Beeston Royds mill, and other places. Benjamin Goodison, Joseph Heaton, George Peat, James Gomersall, Joseph Riddleston, Charles Hardaker, William Bell, Joseph Butterfield, Joseph Lister, James Taylor, William Bedford, John Bradshaw, Francis Oxley, and Samuel Verity. A special commission sat at York to try the rioters. The Leeds rioters were tried on the 3rd of September. Most of the prisoners were found guilty and sentenced to terms of imprisonment varying from eighteen months downwards. The military refrained at Leeds from firing upon the mob. Thus ended the chartist riots at Leeds, an event that will long be remembered from the alarm it excited. Several persons received wounds but no lives were lost, and considering the excitement no very serious damage was done to property. Some idea of the preparations made by the authorities at Leeds, for the suppression of disturbances may be gathered from the fact that 30,000 staves had been provided for the special constables. The streets were cleared early in the evening, and all public houses forced to close at eight o'clock. A large number of police and special constables were on duty the whole of the night. Two thousand persons suffered imprisonment for being concerned in riots in the county of York. Mr. Feargus O'Connor, Mr. Julian Harney, and other chartist leaders were convicted after long and expensive trials, of promoting riots, but ultimately in June, 1843, succeeded in obtaining an arrest of judgment in the court of queen's bench.

1842.—Aug.

30th. Joseph Henry Bennett, a pupil of Mr. J. I. Ikin, surgeon, Cookridge-street, Leeds, fired a pistol at, and shot dead John Dunwell, ostler at Mr. Wharton's hotel, Park-lane. The parties were on very friendly terms, and Bennett stated that he presented the pistol at his friend in a joke, not knowing that it was loaded. He was committed to York for manslaughter, and subsequently convicted and sentenced to three months imprisonment.

Sept. 7th. A splendid Soirée of the Leeds Mechanics' Institution and Literary Society was held this day in the Music-hall. Earl Fitzwilliam, Mr. Wyse, M.P., the Hon. and Rev. Wm. Vernon Harcourt, Professors Liebig, Buckland, and Daubeny, Dr. Lyon Playfair, Geo. Stephenson, and others attended the Soirée. The annual meeting of the Yorkshire Union of Mechanics' Institutes was held in Leeds on the same day.

Oct. 8th. Mountjoy, the celebrated pedestrian, completed this day, the very remarkable feat of walking from Leeds to Bradford and back again, three times within fourteen hours, on six successive days, being a distance of 62 miles each day. On the 17th of the same month, at the Victoria Cricket Ground, Woodhouse moor, in the space of half-an-hour, he ran one mile—walked one mile forwards and one backwards—trundled a hoop half-a-mile—wheeled a barrow half-a-mile—hopped upon one leg 200 yards—ran backwards 200 yards—picked up 40 eggs with his mouth, placed a yard apart, without his knees touching the ground or his hands touching the eggs, and brought each egg in his mouth, and deposited it in a bucket of water without breaking. After a rest of thirty minutes he also performed the following feat within an hour, he ran seven miles, and leaped over sixty hurdles, at an elevation of nearly four feet, having an egg in his mouth while leaping over the last twenty.

20th. Grace Darling, the heroine of the Fern Islands died this day at Bamburgh, aged twenty-five years.

23rd. Mrs. Temple, the post-mistress of Leeds, died this day. She was succeeded by Mr. Anderson, who at this time had been in the post-office more than thirty-six years.

*Leeds Municipal Election Extraordinary.*

August 22nd. North Ward, [J. W. Smith.]

LEEDS MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS, 1st NOVEMBER, 1842.

The names in brackets were elected.

MILL-HILL, [Charles Lee, C. 338, John Atkinson, C. 336,] Geo. Smith, senr., L. 267, Thomas Holt, L. 268———WEST, and *vice*

1842.—Nov.

Fairbairn, resigned, [Robert Craven, L. 583, Thomas Newsome, C. 549, George Morton, L. 542,] John Patrick, C. 534, John Waddington, L. 531, Richard Bramley, C. 541, Joshua Hobson, R. 53.

NORTH-WEST, [Thomas White, R. 271,] Thos. Hardwick, C. 31.

NORTH, [William Hornby, L. 350,] Richard Ripley, C. 93.

NORTH-EAST, [Benjamin Holroyd, C. 592,] John Jackson, R. 536.

EAST, [John Cawood, C. 348,] William Baron, R. 211.

KIRKGATE, [William Sellers, R. 246,] Ralph Markland, C. 214.

SOUTH, [William France, L. 152,] Stephen Mitchell, L. 141, William Ward, C. 115—HUNSLET, [Robert Arthington, L. 487,]

Joseph Beckett, C. 434, Joshua Hobson, R. 205—HOLBECK,

[Joseph Cliff, L. 713, John Whitehead, L. 548,] Joshua Hobson, R. 367—BRAMLLEY, [John Lister, C., Abraham Farrar, C.]

HEADINGLEY, [Thos. Strother, C.]

November 9th, Henry Cooper Marshall, elected mayor.

The following gentlemen were elected aldermen :—

February 2nd, Charles Gascoigne Maclea. April 27th. Joseph Henry Oates.

Nov. 24th. Mr. Thomas Bent Hodgson was elected Registrar for the West-Riding, in opposition to the Hon. Arthur Lascelles, and Mr. James Stephenson.—In this month the treaty of peace between Great Britain and China was signed.

Dec. 5th. A grand anti-corn-law Soiree was held at Leeds. Dr. Bowring, and Mr. Richard Cobden were amongst the speakers.—23rd. The Yorkshire Agricultural and Commercial Bank stopped payment.—26th. The principal speakers at the christmas festival of the Leeds Temperance Society, were J. S. Buckingham, Esq., and the Rev. Joseph Barker, of Newcastle.—31st. A dreadful boiler explosion occurred at Bower's Allerton Main Colliery, near Leeds, doing much damage to property, and injury to several persons.—The average prices of grain per quarter, for the year 1842, were :—wheat 57s. 3d., barley 27s. 6d., oats 19s. 3d., rye 33s., beans 32s. 5d., peas 33s. 11d.

The number of marriages in Leeds in 1840 was 1623—in 1841, 1587—in 1842, 1408. The number of births in 1840 was 6,553—in 1841, 6,685—in 1842, 6,357. The number of deaths in 1840 was 4,485—in 1841, 4,373—in 1842, 4,609.

1843. JOHN FOSTER, a Baptist minister, born in 1770 in Yorkshire, died this year : at an early age attracted the notice of the late Dr. Fawcett, Baptist minister, of Hebden bridge, near Halifax, in Yorkshire, by whose influence he was entered a student of the Baptist college, Bristol, where he studied first under Dr. Evans, and afterwards under Dr. Ryland ; became a preacher, settled, at last, at Downend,



1843.—JAN.

near Bristol ; relinquishing the peculiar duties of a minister, devoted himself to literature, and was a frequent contributor to the "Ecclesiastic Review." His reputation is chiefly founded on his "Essays," (1805,) which are very valuable, and have exerted considerable influence. He published also a somewhat heavy work on "The evils of Popular Ignorance." Foster's intellect was of a high order. His mind was well furnished, well cultivated, logical and powerful. His style has elegance as well as strength.

Jan. 14th. The stoppage of the Sheffield old Bank, of Messrs. Parker, Shore, and Co., took place, owing to the long continued commercial depression.—20th. Mr. Edward Drummond, private secretary to Sir Robert Peel, was assassinated in broad day, and in one of the most public streets of the metropolis by a man named Mac Naughten.

29th. Great excitement and horror was caused in Leeds, by the discovery in the river Aire, near Knostrop lock, of the body of a female, mutilated and burnt in the most horrid manner. Every circumstance connected with the event was shrouded in mystery.

Feb. 1st. A great anti-corn-law demonstration took place at Manchester. Delegates attended from all the principal towns in the kingdom.—3rd. Throughout the night of the 3rd instant, and during the early part of the 4th, Leeds was visited by the strongest and perhaps the most cold and piercing wind that had occurred since January, 1839. Considerable damage was done to property.—8th. A dreadful earthquake occurred at Guadaloupe in the West Indies, by which 20,000 lives were lost.—8th. The Leeds town council resolved to purchase land at Armley, for the purpose of building a borough gaol.—At this time the hand-loom weavers of Leeds petitioned the house of commons, representing their most deplorable situation, and ascribing it to the competition of the power loom, against which they asked parliament to protect them. The petition contained upwards of 9,000 signatures.

March. About this time Messrs. B. Gott and Sons laid out the field adjoining their factory, Park mill, into gardens for the use of their workpeople. Messrs. Marshall, at Holbeck and Headingley also allotted land for the use of their workpeople.—About one o'clock on Friday the 17th, a shock of an earthquake was experienced in Lancashire. It was also felt at Leeds, Headingley, York, Richmond, &c.

April. On Wednesday the 5th of April, at Sheffield 9,055 persons were relieved at the workhouse board, and there

1843.—APRIL.

were at this time upwards of 4,000 uninhabited houses and shops in the same town.——11th. A great public meeting was held in the coloured Cloth-hall, Leeds, to oppose the bill of Sir James Graham, then before parliament for the education of children in factory districts.

14th. JOHN NICHOLSON, of Bradford, the Airedale poet, was born November 29th, 1790, at Weardley, in the parish of Harewood. His father, a worsted manufacturer, having married the daughter of a farmer at Eldwick near Bingley, removed thither when his son was only a few weeks old. The first rudiments of education were taught him by his father at the wool-sorting board. He was afterwards sent to a school on Romald's moor, known as the shooting house, conducted by a person named Brigg, who followed besides the business of a schoolmaster that of besom-maker. After remaining there a few years he was sent to the Bingley free grammar school, then under the care of the late amiable and learned Dr. Hartley, but only remained there about twelve months. He was then put to wool-sorting as a preliminary step to business; but the pursuits of poetry, his love of reading and an unsettled mind, greatly interfered with his duties in the wool warehouse, and entirely unfitted him for business, so that he remained all the days of after life either a journeyman woolcomber or sorter. He was fond of music, and early in life learned to perform on the hautboy. He has often been known to travel to Leeds, a distance of sixteen miles for the sole purpose of buying a reed for his instrument. He married before he was twenty years of age. His wife died soon after leaving him a child. In 1813 he took to himself another wife, named Martha Wild, of Bingley, whom he familiarly called 'Pat,' and who survived him. He was first brought into local reputation as a poet in 1818, by a sarcastic composition relating to a physician at Bradford. He afterwards wrote a piece in three acts, termed "The Robber of the Alps," which was performed at the old theatre, Bradford. It was so well received that he soon produced the "Siege of Bradford," which was acted for the benefit of Mr. Macauley, one of the players, and yielded the sum of £47. In 1824 he published Airedale and other poems. A second edition was struck off in 1825. Unfortunately the publication of this work induced him to quit his employment, and roam about the country for the purpose of selling the work. He then contracted inveterate habits of intemperance, which he never afterwards shook off, but proved the bane and curse of his life. In 1827 he

1843.—APRIL.

published the "Lyre of Ebor," and other poems, and again started as a vendor of his works. His improvident conduct continued to increase, and his wife and family had in consequence to endure many privations. The poet was often befriended and helped out of his difficulties by George Lane Fox, Esq., of Bramham. In October 1827 Mr. Fox made him a present of £20, with which (less £4 he gave to his wife) and a large stock of his works he departed for London. As usual the money he took with him, and what he received for the sale of his books was soon spent. He was there three weeks and returned home with only a half-penny in his pocket. A laughable incident occurred to the poet while in London, which got into the daily papers headed "The Yorkshire Poet in trouble." He had there made the acquaintance of a barrister, and a number of gentlemen of gay habits, who persuaded him one night to go to the Drury-lane theatre, and paid for his admission into the dress-boxes. His eccentric conduct, and odd dress,—blue coat, corduroy breeches, and grey yarn stockings, soon collected round him a number of *swells* of both sexes, determined to be merry at his expense. A great uproar was the consequence and the officer on duty at the theatre took Nicholson, after a severe struggle, to Covent garden watch-house. Next day he was brought before Sir Richard Bernie, who on hearing the case laughed heartily and discharged the prisoner. The poet started for home immediately. Believing that the metropolis was the great mart for his works, after the lapse of a few months he again visited London, this time accompanied by his wife who proved a great check on his excesses. While there he buried a favourite child. A circumstance now occurred which put an end to his book-selling journeys. The printer and publisher of his works became insolvent, and a large stock of the books (Nicholson having paid for the paper) were put to the hammer, and realized about half their value. He was then obliged to earn a livelihood by the laborious and ill-recompensed occupation of wool-combing. He removed from Bingley to Bradford in 1833, and remained there during the remainder of his life. His life was henceforward a chequered scene of labour one day, and reckless conduct the next. He never gave up the pleasures of composing poetry, and at intervals wrote 'A description of the Low-moor Iron works,' 'A walk from Knaresbrough to Harrogate,' &c., &c. On the evening before Good Friday, April 13th, 1843, Nicholson left Bradford for Eldwick, and called at several

1843.—APRIL.

places on the road. It was near midnight when he left Shipley. He proceeded up the bank of the canal in the direction of Dixon mill, and at this place it seems, attempted to cross the river Aire, by means of the stepping stones. The night was dark and the river swollen. It is supposed that he had missed his footing and fallen into the current; struggled out, became benumbed and exhausted,—he was found dead on the bank next morning, his body quite warm, and his clothes wet. On the 18th he was interred in Bingley church yard, where a monument was erected to his memory by George Lane Fox, bearing this simple inscription:—

“Here rest the remains of John Nicholson, of Bradford, the Airedale poet, who was found dead on the bank of the river Aire, April 14th, 1843, in the 53rd year of his age.”

He left a wife and eight children. In person he was about five feet ten inches in height, of robust make, broad shouldered, and rather stooped. He was of a ruddy complexion, with a dark brown eye in which fire seemed to roll at the bottom. His eye and massy overshadowing brow were the only indexes in his countenance of the intellectual power he possessed. In disposition he was kind-hearted, frank, and without deceit. His great and sole vice was intemperance. During the latter years of his life he was remarkably slovenly in dress and general appearance. Had Nicholson's powers been cultivated there can be no doubt he would have ranked high as a poet. He possessed all the requisites of a true poet and noble-minded man. He was ever remarkable for impromptu verse making. He was once on the eve of having his furniture sold, by Clarkson his landlord, for rent, when his friend Mr. Fox prevented the sale by discharging the debt. He wrote on a pane of glass in one of the windows:—

Oh Clarkson, Clarkson, with a heart  
More hard than Bingley rocks,  
Who would have sold the poet up  
But for his friend Lane Fox.

J. G. Horsfall, Esq., one day called at the poet's house for a drink of water, when he was handed instead a draught of beer. Mr. Horsfall in a jocose manner said, “Nicholson, they state you are a poet, but let me hear what you can say about this pot of beer,” when without premeditation he improvised the following:—

1843.—APRIL.

“O for an everlasting spring  
 Of home brew'd drink like this !  
 Then with my friends I'd laugh and sing,  
 And spend the hours in bliss ;  
 Then come old Care linked with Despair,  
 For I with thee made strong,  
 Would plunge them overhead in beer,  
 And make them lead the song.”

A glass of new drawn porter was one brought to the poet, when he took out his pencil and wrote :—

“The gallant, the gay and the sporter,  
 Have here but little to stay ;  
 For life's like the froth on that porter  
 And quickly doth vanish away.”

May. The skeleton of a whale was exhibited in Leeds market of the amazing length of ninety-five feet. The carriage in which it was exhibited was of colossal size, and very appropriately represented a British man-of-war. The exhibition was so arranged, that the visitors could walk through the skeleton of the gigantic wonder of the deep without the least inconvenience.——30th. An address of the electors and inhabitants of the West-Riding of Yorkshire, agreed to at a public meeting in Wakefield, at which Earl Fitzwilliam presided, was presented to Lord Morpeth, expressive of appreciation of his lordship's private virtue and public conduct, during the time that he represented the West-Riding.

June 7th. The 22nd meeting of the Geological and Polytechnic Society of the West-Riding of Yorkshire, was held in the Philosophical-hall, Park-row, Leeds. The Rev. W. F. Hook, D.D., presided.——14th. At a special meeting of the Leeds town council, a petition was adopted to both houses of parliament, for an enquiry into the present state of the post office, with a view to the completion of the plan of penny postage, as originally proposed by Mr. Hill. At the same meeting, the town clerk was empowered to continue an action against Thomas Hebden, and Elkanah Oates, for opening the public market called “King Charles' Croft,” and placards were ordered to be issued and posted in the town, as well as inserted in the newspapers, cautioning all persons from buying or selling in the market.

July 4th. The little village of Mount Tabor near Halifax, was thrown into a state of the greatest consternation by the

1843.—JULY.

murder of a weaver named John Dobson, aged 52, by his own son Joseph aged 25. There had been family quarrels during the day, and the son at last swore a dreadful oath that if there were powder and shot in Halifax he would shoot his father. Having his deadly object in view, he went to a neighbouring house for the purpose of borrowing a pistol. Foiled in his object, and knowing that a gun was kept at the house where he had formerly lodged, he proceeded to a place in Boy-lane, where he purchased some powder, some shot (No. 6,) and some caps. With this ammunition he went to his late landlord's, and, cutting down an old gun which was suspended upon one of the beams, took it to the door, where he first tried the lock with a percussion cap, and then, charging it with powder, fired it, and finding the gun to be in good repair, he finally charged it, and was noticed by a young man standing by to put in an extraordinary quantity of shot, from a paper he had in his pocket. Thus armed, he proceeded towards home, saying, in a jest, he was going to learn to shoot. About three o'clock in the afternoon the parricide came home. The father was out, but came in a few minutes afterwards. The dwelling was but scantily furnished. The son, it appears, deliberately loaded the gun, and rammed it. He then asked his father if he meant to perform some act he had told him to do. The old man did not answer. The question was asked a second time, but still no answer was given. "Then I'll shoot thee," was the diabolical declaration of the son, who levelled the piece and fired. The gun, however, did not go off. Quick as lightning a second cap was put on the lock, and the gun fired. The old man uttered a deep groan, and then falling upon the hearth stone, the next moment was dead, a portion of the shot having passed through his heart. The wife of the parricide was standing close to the old man at the time the gun was fired. The muzzle of the gun could not have been distant more than a quarter of a yard from the breast of the old man, and consequently, the whole of the charge was lodged in his person. Hearing the report of fire-arms, several neighbours immediately ran to the spot, but in the meantime the wretch had made his escape, and throwing the gun into a neighbouring field, ran off towards Halifax, followed by six or seven men. For a while the pursuers had the murderer in sight, but unfortunately lost him in Snakehill-wood, and he succeeded in making his escape. He was subsequently apprehended, and tried at York on the 19th of December, found guilty of wilful murder, and executed on the 20th of January in the following year.

1843—JULY.

5th. A very handsome silver tea service was presented to the Rev. Richard Winter Hamilton, by his church and congregation at Belgrave chapel, Leeds, as a token of esteem and affection. The testimonial consisted of :—a tea service and coffee pot, beautifully chased in raised bouquets. An elegant kettle stand, and lamp to match, holding about four quarts. An elaborately embossed round basket of exquisite workmanship ; eighteen Victoria pattern tea spoons, pair ditto butter knives, pair ditto sugar tongs, sugar and caddy spoons, &c. The Rev. gentleman's crest was engraved on all the plate, and the larger articles bore the following inscription :—"Presented to the Rev. R. W. Hamilton, by the church and congregation under his pastoral care, as a token of their high esteem, and devoted affection. Leeds, July 5th, 1843."——The hooping cough and measles were very prevalent amongst children in Leeds. At one time there were no fewer than seventy children in the Infant school labouring under these complaints out of 120 scholars.

5th. The town and neighbourhood of Leeds were visited this evening by a terrific thunderstorm and hurricane. The hailstones were so enormously large, (some being an inch and a half in circumference) that numerous squares of glass were broken by their fall, and the strength of the wind was such, that at Armley a large tree was torn up by the roots, and carried to a short distance, where it fell upon a cow and killed it. Considerable damage was done to crops and fruit trees in the neighbourhood.

8th. Edwin Eddison, Esq. for seven years town-clerk of Leeds, and clerk to the council since the new improvement act in August, 1842, tendered to the mayor his resignation of both offices. John Arthur Ikin, Esq., at a council meeting on the 19th of July was elected to the office of town-clerk by a large majority.——There was discovered about this time on the estate of William Craven, Esq., of Cold Spring House, near Cullingworth, a pure and bounteous spring of intensely cold water, said to be two degrees colder than the celebrated mountain spring at Ilkley.——12th. A general strike of the workmen at the Low-moor Iron Works near Bradford, took place. The wool-combers of Bradford also turned out about the same time. In both cases the strike was for an advance of wages.——12th. Died J. B. S. Morritt, Esq., of Rokeby Park, Yorkshire, aged 72. Sir Walter Scott said of him in 1823, "He is now one of my oldest, and, I believe one of my most sincere friends ; a man unequalled



1843.—JULY.

in the mixture of sound good sense, high literary cultivation, and the kindest and sweetest temper that ever graced a human bosom."

13th. In the afternoon of this day, the town and neighbourhood of Leeds were again visited by a severe thunderstorm. In the field at Newton Hall, the residence of George Goodman, Esq., Potternewton, a tree was split asunder by the lightning. Mrs. Leah Hirst, of Cow Rakes, in Lindley, near Huddersfield, was struck dead by the electric fluid. The lightning also did much damage to Mr. Leah's house. — During this month the celebrated Father Matthew, a Roman Catholic priest from Ireland, and a great temperance advocate, visited nearly all the principal towns in Yorkshire. On Sunday the 9th inst. he preached a sermon in St. Ann's catholic church, Leeds, and on Monday morning, the 10th, at seven o'clock he administered mass in the same church in full canonicals. At nine o'clock in the morning of the same day, a public breakfast was given in his honour in the hall of the Mechanics' Institution, South-parade, after which was held a temperance meeting. Edward Baines, Esq., junr. occupied the chair. At half-past one o'clock a procession was formed in South-parade and Park-row, whence it proceeded through the principal streets of the town to the Zoological and Botanical gardens, at Headingley, where a grand Gala was held in honour of Father Matthew's visit to Leeds. On Tuesday he visited Bradford, and on Wednesday, Huddersfield.

24th. Dr. Hobson having resigned the office of senior physician to the Leeds General Infirmary, Dr. Chadwick was this day appointed to the vacant office. — 31st. A public meeting of the Leeds anti-slavery society was held this evening in Queen-street chapel. The Rev. J. W. C. Pennington, a gentleman of colour from the United States of America, attended and addressed the meeting.

August 2nd. The eleventh anniversary meeting of the Provincial Medical and Surgical association was held in Leeds.

9th. At the meeting of the Leeds town council this day, Mr. Jackson, one of the churchwardens, stated on the part of the vicar and his fellow-churchwardens that unless the council paid annually £12 12s. for necessary repairs of the parish church clock, it must stand. The council declined to pass any vote upon the subject. — The Leeds second public exhibition for the benefit of the Leeds Mechanics' Institute was open at this time, and held in the Music-hall, Albion-street. It contained a very extensive and rare

1843.—AUG.

collection of paintings, sculpture, &c. A museum of antiquities, curiosities, natural history, &c. Models of steam engines and machinery in active motion, amongst which may be mentioned a Jacquard loom, silk purse and stocking knitting loom, the process of silvering plate glass, electrotyping at work, file cutting machine, sheet and fillet card making machines, glass blowing, Rosenberg's celebrated composing and distributing machine, lithographic and printing press, fancy turning and other lathes at work, a large diving bell, &c., &c. The prices of admission were season tickets, 2s. 6d., single admission, 6d.

24th. The first prize of £150 for plans of a new gaol at Armley was awarded to Messrs. Hirst and Moffatt of Leeds and Doncaster; and the second prize of £75 was awarded to Messrs. Perkin and Backhouse of Leeds.\* The latter gentlemen were on the 9th of November following, appointed architects for the erection of the gaol. They estimated that the land, the building, and the fitting up of the gaol might amount to £40,560, (see 1847.)

In this month a silver coin of James I., of England and VIth of Scotland, and bearing date 1604, was found in the allotment gardens near Gott's mill. Another coin of the time of Elizabeth was also found.——Mr. Thomas Sidney of the firm of Sidney and Stables, tea merchants, Leeds, made the munificent offer of five hundred guineas towards a proposed institution, afterwards called the "The Leeds Tradesmen's Benevolent Institution," which was established October 23rd. 1843. The humane object of the society is the granting of pensions to distressed reputable merchants, manufacturers, tradesmen and professional men, when in old age and suffering through poverty and adverse circumstances, and also to their widows. Each applicant must have attained the age of sixty-years, and have resided at least seven years within the borough of Leeds, and during that period must have occupied as owner or tenant, premises of the annual rental of £30 or upwards, rated to the relief of the poor, or £40 not rated; or occupied room and power, of the annual rental of £100 or upwards, or room power and machinery of the annual value of £120 or upwards, rated or not. The society has stock in the consols and borough funds, to the value of £10,000. Seventy pensioners are now (1859) enjoying the bounty of the institution. The highest grant to males is £24 per annum, unless he shall have been a member of the society for seven consecutive years, then the grant is £30; and to females £22. The pensioners are paid by the com-

1843.—Aug.

mittee quarterly, namely on the 1st of Jan., April, July, and October. Power is given to allow a sum not exceeding £5 towards the funeral expenses, at the death of a pensioner. Offices—South-parade; Mr. William Pearson, Secretary.

Sept. 7th. Mr. Charles Hill, of Bradford, undertook for a wager of £20, to drag from the Exchange, Bradford, to the Exchange, Leeds, and back again in twelve hours, a wherry laden with pack sheets, weighing two packs or thirty stones. He started at eight o'clock in the evening, and returned to the place of starting at three minutes past seven o'clock next morning.——12th. The great St. Ledger race at Doncaster was won by a head, by Nutwith,—Cotherstone carried off the second prize, and Prizefighter the third; the former beating the latter by a neck. The race was timed at three minutes and twenty seconds. Value of the stakes subject to the usual deductions £3,100. The cup day was on the 14th, when Cotherstone was first, Napier second, and Aristides third. Aristides was beat cleverly by a neck only. Run in three minutes and twenty-three seconds.

Oct. 3rd. Died suddenly whilst attending a meeting of the Manchester literary society, George William Wood, Esq., M.P. for Kendal. He was the son of the late Rev. William Wood, minister of Mill-hill chapel, Leeds, and was for a considerable time in business in the town, in the firm of Oates, Wood, and Smithson. He married in 1810, Sarah, eldest daughter of the late Joseph Oates, Esq., of Weetwood hall, near Leeds. He was a man of the most upright character, of enlarged understanding, extensive knowledge, and excellent business habits.

11th. In order to carry out the enlargement of the Kirkgate market, in Leeds, the town council some time before this date offered to Mr. John Purchon the sum of £1,555 10s. for property belonging to him situate in Purchon's yard, Kirkgate, which he refused to take. The sum demanded by Mr. Purchon was £4,860. To settle the matter the council acting under the powers of the Leeds improvement act, directed a warrant to the high sheriff of the county, requiring him to summon a jury at Leeds to determine the amount of compensation to be paid for the property. The case was heard this day in the council-chamber at the Leeds Court-house, and the jury brought in a verdict assigning compensation to the amount of £2,500. The costs of the action fell on the council. A similar case of disputed compensation between the council and Mr. Matthew Kitchin, owner of the London Tavern, Kirkgate,

1843.—OCT.

and the adjoining premises was heard 7th June, 1844, when the jury assessed the compensation at £9,000, (the sum claimed by Mr. Kitchin) for the property and £1,250 for the good-will of the tavern.

*Leeds Municipal Election Extraordinary.*

June 30th, West Ward, [John Jackson]

LEEDS MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS, 1st NOVEMBER, 1843.

The names in brackets were elected.

MILL-HILL, [John Moorhouse, L. 303, Chas. Watson, L. 302,] J. Rayner, C. 299, B. Williamson, C. 298. ——— WEST, [Francis Carbutt, L. 488, John Jackson, R. 481,] P. L. Atkinson, C. 438, D. Atkinson, C. 441. ——— NORTH-WEST, [Christopher Heaps, L. 347,] James Close, 276. ——— NORTH, [Thos. Brumfit, L.]

NORTH-EAST, [Thos. Wedill, C. 539,] G. Morton, R. 348.

EAST, [J. C. Barrett, R. 394,] Martin Cawood, C. 384.

KIRKGATE, [John Yewdall, L. 223,] Richard Stead, C. 213.

SOUTH, [John Broadhead, L.] ——— HUNSLET, [Samuel Walker, L. 424,] Wm. Heaton, junr., C. 224 ——— HOLBECK, [Joshua Hobson, R. 567, William Ingham, L. 495,] Mr. Pape, L. 387.

BRAMLBY, [John Wilson, C. 669, John Oddy, C. 664,] John Cliff, L. 371, D. Hainsworth, L. 365. ——— HEADINGLEY, [John Prince, C. 268,] Thomas Anderton, L. 201.

November 9th. Hamer Stansfeld, Esq., elected mayor.

December 27th. North-East Ward, *vice* Holroyd, deceased, Martin Cawood.

Nov. 6th. John Deakin Heaton, Esq., M.D., Park-square, was elected physician to the Leeds Public Dispensary.

12th. At midnight, James Searle, *alias* Tigser, of Leeds, completed the Barclay match of walking 1000 miles in 1000 successive hours, on the piece of road from the Shakespere Inn, Meadow-lane, to the New Peacock Inn, Holbeck. He continued to walk until half-past five o'clock p.m., the next day, when he completed the distance of 1,018 miles in 1,018 successive hours, together with sixty-three yards over and above each mile, amounting to thirty-five miles 1,400 yards, and making a total of 1,053 miles 1,400 yards.

23rd. Mr. James Byram, shopkeeper, Gildersome, was charged before the Leeds magistrates with offering for sale 40lbs of spent tea leaves, which had been re-dried and coloured in imitation of black tea. He was convicted in a penalty of £5 for every pound of tea, namely £200 and 1s. damages, or in default of payment to be imprisoned six months.

1843 — DEC.

Dec. 6th. An eclipse of the moon commenced at half-past nine p.m. ; was complete at midnight, and terminated at a quarter before three on the following morning. The weather was most favourable for observation.——6th. The twenty-fourth quarterly meeting of the Geological and Polytechnic Society of the West-Riding was held at Huddersfield. The Rev. W. Scoresby, D.D., F.R.S., presided. At this meeting it was resolved that the specimens composing the museum of the society should be removed to the apartments of the Leeds Philosophical and Literary Society.——In this month Dr. Wesley, the organist of the Leeds parish church delivered eight lectures on church music, at the Collegiate Institution, Liverpool.——13th. A public meeting for the abolition of the corn laws was held in the Music-hall, Albion-street, Leeds. Hamer Stansfeld Esq., the mayor, occupied the chair, and the meeting was addressed by Richard Cobden, Esq., M.P., John Bright, Esq., M.P., R. R. Moore, Esq. of Manchester, Henry Ashworth, Esq. of Bolton, and other gentlemen. At the close of the meeting £2,110 6s. was subscribed towards the anti-corn-law league fund. Anti-corn-law meetings were held in most of the principal towns in Yorkshire, when large sums of money were contributed for the purpose of the "Anti-Corn-Law League."

The good harvest of this and the previous year made food cheap. The workmen in the towns and villages after long suffering had regained employment, and all trades were improved. The popular demand for the removal of the corn laws had greatly increased. The great agitation, by Daniel O'Connell, for a repeal of the union in Ireland, caused great alarm to the Government, who instituted proceedings against him, his son, and other repealers. The trial of O'Connell, and others, commenced on the 15th of January, 1844, and ended on the 12th of February, having lasted just a month ; a verdict of Guilty was returned against them. Shortly after, a debate in the House of Commons, on the subject of Ireland, occupied nine days. In June O'Connell was sentenced to twelve months imprisonment, and a fine of £2,000 ; and his son and the other traversers, (with the exception of the Rev. Mr. Tierney), to nine months imprisonment, and a fine of £50 each. The House of Lords reversed the judgment, after the parties had been imprisoned three months.

During the year, Queen Victoria made a visit, entirely divested of state formalities, to the late royal family of France, and to her uncle, the king of Belgium.——Extensive riots

1844.—JAN.

took place in Wales, caused by the great distress of the poor, unpopularity of the poor laws, and the increase of turn-pike gates.

1844. Jan. The miners at the Rothwell Haigh and Robin Hood collieries, amounting to about 150 men, were at this time out on strike, owing to the new regulations introduced in the pits, having caused a reduction of their wages.

8th A number of soldiers of the 70th Infantry, stationed in Leeds, made an indiscriminate attack upon every person they met in proceeding from the Green Man, York-street, up Kirkgate, in some cases inflicting serious injury. The policemen present did not attempt to seize any of the military, because they had bayonets with them, and were very excited. The riot was occasioned by some one having written on the public house table—"No swaddy Irishmen or soldiers wanted here."——Mr. J. W. Moorhouse, coal pit owner, of Wooldale, was charged at Huddersfield and fined £20, for having suffered four girls aged respectively 12, 13, 15, and 17, to be employed in Lidget pit as hurriers.

15th. The trustees of the Leeds pious use property, having decided to advance the rent of the House of Recovery, situate in Vicar-lane, in September, from £23 10s. 6d. to £120 a year, a meeting of the subscribers and benefactors to the charity, was held in the Philosophical Hall, when it was decided to present a requisition to the mayor, to convene a public meeting of the inhabitants, for the purpose of considering the expediency of erecting a new House of Recovery. A committee was formed, and a subscription opened, and on the 4th July following, it was determined to purchase not less than two acres of land as a site for the building, of Mr. Arthur Lupton, Junr., of Headingley; situated in Beckett-street, Burmantofts. The building was opened in 1846, having cost about £7,000. It stands on an elevated site, and is sixty yards back from the road, within an enclosure of about  $2\frac{1}{2}$  acres, which is laid out in gardens. The enclosure has a frontage of about 117 yards to the road, from which it is separated by a low wall, surmounted with high iron palisading, and runs backward 111 yards. The building is of brick, with a stone portico; its length is 253 feet, by 23 feet 6 inches wide. There are 22 wards, calculated to accommodate 130 patients. Baths are provided, with an ample supply of hot and cold water through the house. The establishment is well ventilated, and warmed on an improved principle. This valuable institution is supported by annual subscriptions, voluntary donations, and

1844.—JAN.

collections at different places of worship. There are 80 beds, with room for 20 more. Mr. Richards, is the resident surgeon, and Mrs. Slater, the matron. Physician, Dr. Chadwick; surgeons, Mr. Cass, Mr. Wilson, and Mr. Samuel Hey. All persons labouring under infectious fevers, who are unable to provide medicine and proper accommodation for themselves, are admissible, subject to the payment of 1s. 9d. per day from the respective townships. Domestic servants, labouring under infectious fevers, may be admitted on payment of 1s. 9d. per day, during their residence in the house.——The Leeds Gas Company resolved to light Chapeltown with gas.——Benjamin Ryding, alias the Morning Star, completed the task of walking 1500 miles in 1500 hours.——16th. John Perry, a man of colour, at Ripon, concluded this morning betwixt the hours of seven and eight o'clock, the arduous task of walking  $1\frac{1}{2}$  mile every successive hour for 1000 hours, making an aggregate distance of 1250 miles.——22nd. Died aged 112 years, George Wharton, the oldest man in Yorkshire, who formerly lived at Laverton, but who for some years before his death resided at Masham Moor Heads in the North-Riding.——31st. A great West-Riding anti-corn-law demonstration and dinner took place at the Corn Exchange, Wakefield, James Garth Marshall, Esq., of Leeds, in the chair. Lord Morpeth, Richard Cobden, Esq., M.P., John Bright, Esq., M.P., and other gentlemen took part in the meeting.

Feb. 20th. Mr. Richard Oastler, after an absence of more than three years, during which period he had been in the Queen's prison, and from which he was released by the voluntary contributions of his friends, made a public entry into the town of Huddersfield, with which he was formerly for a series of years intimately connected as steward of the Thornhill estate of Fixby.——25th. The Rev. George Watson, vicar of Caistor, and rector of the adjoining village of Rothwell, committed suicide by discharging the contents of a gun into his mouth.——During some excavations at Chatsworth, two immense chests filled with coins were found. The collection is supposed to have been made by the great great grandfather of the present duke, and is said to be worth £10,000.

March 1st. As the Skipton, Alexander, was returning from Leeds, the coachman alighted at the Junction inn, about five miles from Skipton, and went into the house, leaving the horses to the care of a groom, who accompanied the coach from Keighley. It appears, however, that the



1844.—MARCH.

groom neglected to attend to his duty ; for the horses, finding themselves at liberty, set off at a brisk speed, and arrived safe at Skipton without any driver. There were no outside passengers, but two gentlemen inside ; one of whom observed to his fellow traveller, “ that he thought they were going at a brisk pace.” Yes,” replied the other, “ we are now making up for lost time.” The coach passed a loaded waggon, and other carriages on the road without any accident.

2nd. A large building occupied as warehouses by nine firms at No. 9, George’s-street, Manchester, was totally destroyed by fire. The damage was estimated at £150,000.

9th. A most dreadful accident occurred at Bradford, by the bursting of a boiler of the steam engine, of twenty horse power at Mason’s mill, by which six young persons were killed, namely :—John Wilman, 15, Jonas Wilman, 13, Abraham Mitchell, James Booth Flaxington, 13, Edward Hainsworth, 17, and — Garfitt.

11th. A boiler explosion took place at Squire’s mill, Thornton-road, Bradford, occupied by Messrs. Ackroyd and Greenwood, by which two persons named John Robinson, and William Rigg, were killed, and several others severely injured. The accident was caused by putting on more power than the boiler could bear. Messrs. Ackroyd, and Messrs. Greenwood were properly censured by the coroner’s jury.—William Hey, Esq., surgeon of Leeds, breathed his last on the 13th of March this year, (1844) than whom few men have lived more beloved and respected ; his hand and heart were ever prompt in every good work of utility, benevolence, and religion : and his unobtrusive virtues and sterling qualities of piety and kindness in private life, endeared him in the affections and esteem of all who knew him. As a member of the medical profession, in which the name of his family has long been distinguished and honoured, Mr. Hey was one of its brightest ornaments. He was for many years senior surgeon of the Leeds general infirmary—an institution closely linked with the memory of his venerated father. He was an alderman of the borough of Leeds many years previous to the passing of the municipal reform act, having also filled the office of mayor. He was named a magistrate of the borough in the commission subsequently issued by Lord John Russell, but never qualified. In 1833 he qualified as a magistrate of the West-Riding, his name having been on the commission for some time previously. Mr. Hey was in his seventy-third year at the time of his death.—18th. The Gibraltar soap works at Knostrop,

1844.—MARCH.

near Leeds, belonging to Messrs. Pemberton, were destroyed by fire. ——— The trustees of the Leeds pious use property presented the Rev. Dr. Holmes, head master of the Leeds free grammar school with a donation of £500 from the funds of the charity. ——— 20th. A great anti-corn-law meeting was held in the Music-hall, Leeds. Jas. G. Marshall, Esq. occupied the chair, and the meeting was addressed by W. J. Fox, Esq. and others. ——— 21st. A meeting of mill-owners in the flax-spinning, woollen, and silk trades, took place in the Court-house, Leeds, H. C. Marshall, Esq. in the chair, when it was resolved to send a memorial to the government, protesting against the ten hours clause in Lord Astley's factory act. ——— A public meeting in favour of the ten hours bill was held in the Music-hall, on the 8th of April, at which the Rev. Dr. Hook presided.

May 13th. Died, aged 85, Sir John Lowther, of Swillington hall, near Leeds. He was the son of the Rev. Sir William Lowther, Bart., rector of Swillington, and Ann, his wife, a descendant of the ancient family of the Zouches; was born in April, 1759. On the 4th of Sept. 1790, he married Lady Elizabeth Fane, third daughter of John, ninth Earl of Westmoreland, by whom he had three sons and three daughters, but one of the latter died an infant, and another in 1812. Sir John was next brother to the late Earl of Lonsdale. His baronetcy dates from the year 1824. He was succeeded to his title and estates by his eldest son John Henry, (born March 23rd, 1793) one of the members of the city of York. Lady Elizabeth Lowther, relict of the deceased baronet, died on the 19th of May, aged 74.

23rd. Some 3,000 colliers who were on the strike in this district, entered Leeds in procession, and afterwards held a meeting in vicar's croft to state their grievances. On the 17th of June following, the colliers on strike from Lofthouse, Gildersome, Churwell, Rothwell Haigh, and other places in the neighbourhood of Wakefield, held a public meeting on Richmond-hill, Leeds, the magistrates having refused to permit them to meet in Kirkgate market, or vicar's croft.

29th. The opening of the Hydropathic establishment, at Ben-Rhydding was celebrated by a sumptuous *dejeuner a la fourchette*, given within the walls of the institution by the directors, to a large party of ladies and gentlemen from Leeds, Bradford, Otley, Ilkley, and the surrounding districts. In the drawing-room, Hamer Stansfeld, Esq. mayor of Leeds, presided; and the dining-room was under the presidency of J. P. Clapham, Esq., of Burley, the principal

1844.—MAY.

director of the institution.——26th. Died, aged 46, James Musgrave, Esq., alderman and magistrate of the borough of Leeds. A marble monument was subsequently erected in Oxford-place chapel to the memory of the deceased, and bears the following inscription :—

“Sacred to the memory of James Musgrave, Esq., alderman and magistrate of the borough of Leeds; who was for 46 years a member of the Wesleyan Methodist Society in this town; during the greater part of which period he occupied the offices of local preacher and class leader. As a private christian he was uniformly consistent and pious, adoring the doctrine of God, his Saviour, in a humble, pious and devotional spirit. As a local preacher, he was plain, practical and searching. As a class leader, he was watchful, faithful, and affectionate. His truly christian example commanded the respect and esteem of his fellow townsmen, while his domestic virtues and simplicity of manners, secured the affection of his family and friends. In the erection of this chapel he took a lively and anxious interest, watching over the cause of God with untiring solicitude. He was a liberal supporter of all christian institutions, serving and promoting in every possible way the interests of true religion. The Divine Master whom he loved and served to the end, suddenly called him to his eternal rest, (on his way to this house of prayer,) on Sunday evening, May the 26th, 1841, in the 68th year of his age. His remains are interred in the adjoining burial ground. This tablet is erected by his affectionate friends, the trustees of this Chapel, in testimony of their high esteem and respect for their ever active and faithful treasurer. ‘Blessed are those servants whom the Lord when he cometh, shall find watching.’ Luke, xii, 37.”

June 1st. A frightful accident happened at Wakefield to a female named Haslegrave. She lived at the house of her husband's brother, who kept some pleasure grounds in Back Lane, in which was kept a bear and other animals. The bear was confined in a pit made for the purpose, and in the middle of it was a pole, up which the bear was in the habit of climbing. On Friday morning the animal climbed the pole, and springing from it on the wall of its den, made its escape. It attacked Mrs. Haslegrave who happened to be near the place, got her down, and mangled her dreadfully with its claws, tearing away part of one of her breasts, and inflicting other serious injuries. Assistance was rendered, and it was with some difficulty the animal was beaten off and afterwards shot.——Died aged 85 years, Benjamin Rawson, Esq., lord of the manor, at Bradford. He purchased the manor from the late John Marsden, Esq., of Hornby castle in 1795. Mr. James in his history of Bradford, traces the pedigree of the Rawsons up to the times of Henry VIII. Their original seat was at Ferrybridge. The deceased was born in 1758. In 1785 he married Elizabeth, daughter of Thomas Plumbe, Esq., second son of the Rev. Thomas Plumbe, canon of Windsor. Mrs. Rawson died in 1807, leaving seven sons and six daughters.——3rd. John Hope Shaw, was elected alderman of the borough of Leeds, *vice* Musgrave, deceased.——On Monday the 3rd of June a

1844.—JUNE.

fire occurred at Huddersfield, by which property to the value of nearly £40,000 was destroyed. The premises which fell a prey to the devouring element was a large mill or factory, the property of Mr. Joseph Kaye. The building was tenanted by nearly thirty small finishers, most of whom suffered severely by the catastrophe. The mill was first discovered to be on fire by Mr. Eastwood's man, who saw the flames raging in the inside of the third story. This was about half-past one. He immediately gave the alarm, and in a few minutes after the flames burst through the windows, and finding vent, the devastating element spread with amazing rapidity from room to room, until the whole building was one entire mass of flame. The scene from the top of Chapel Hill, and from Crosland Moor, was one of the most awfully magnificent that can be imagined. About two o'clock the principal part of the roof fell in with a tremendous crash, carrying the three top floors with it, the others soon after following. The firemen used every exertion to save the engine house, in which they eventually succeeded. By six o'clock the whole building was an entire mass of rubbish, nothing left standing but the bare walls.

9th. On Sunday and Monday evenings, the 9th and 10th of June, the town of Leeds was thrown into a state of great excitement by a collision between the police force of the borough, and the privates of the 70th regiment of foot then stationed in the town. It appears that about eight o'clock on the Sunday evening, policemen Haigh and Best were called into the shop of Mr. Ward, surgeon, Kirkgate, where they found a man named Edward Thompson, seriously wounded. He stated that he had been attacked by two soldiers, named O'Brian and Kairn, who were at the Green Man beerhouse, York-street. In a short time the police succeeded in apprehending the soldiers; and as the prisoners were being conducted to the Court-house, privates Sherburd, Carr, and others, attempted their rescue; took off their belts and commenced a furious attack upon Haigh and Best, inflicting serious injury upon the latter. Other policemen came up, and then ensued a most terrific conflict between the two bodies. The men in custody were liberated by the soldiers, but were afterwards taken by the policemen in Brig-gate. Considerable violence was used on both sides. The police succeeded in lodging in prison seven of the military. On Monday the prisoners were brought before the magistrates. Privates Sherburd and O'Brian were fined £5 each, and in default of payment were committed to the house of correction

1844.—JUNE.

for two months. The other prisoners were handed over to the commanding officer for punishment. On the Monday evening some restraint was put upon the military at the barracks, notwithstanding which about forty or fifty of them got out in small batches, and by pre-arrangement assembled at the Green Parrot, Harper-street. About seven o'clock they left the public house in a body, armed with sticks, bludgeons, &c., on a crusade against the police, and proceeded up Kirkgate, into Briggate, &c. The police in every instance suffered defeat and disaster; policeman Wildblood narrowly escaped with his life; policeman Robertson was also much hurt and bruised, especially on the head and arms; policeman Smith was nearly killed. During the affray the streets and windows in Briggate, Kirkgate, and Commercial-street, were crowded with people. The populace generally seemed to sympathize with the military. They cheered them on through the streets, and in some instances assisted in the riot. At length a piquet arrived to quell the disturbance. Some of the members of the corps took to flight at their approach, but a many of them were marched to the barracks in Woodhouse-lane. On Tuesday evening the military were not suffered to leave the barracks, but a rabble infested the streets, and about nine o'clock fell upon the police in Kirkgate, pelting them with stones, bottles, &c. Ultimately a large force of police armed with cutlasses, cleared the streets. On Friday, seventeen persons, were committed to Wakefield house of correction for trial at the next borough sessions, namely:—*Soldiers*—Coghlan, O'Brian, Judd, Mac Clanaghan, Vickerman, Harwood, Turner, Mooran, Beaty, and Cosgrave. *Civilians*—Manassah Flatow, Daniel Davins, William Farrell, Benjamin Cawood, John James, Silvester Forrest, and John Caton. On the 2nd of July after a trial of four days the following verdicts were returned against the prisoners:—*Military*—William O'Brian, guilty, to be imprisoned twelve months. Patrick Mac Clanaghan, Michael Coghlan, and John Mooran, guilty, and each sentenced to eight months imprisonment. *Civilians*—Manassah Flatow, guilty of common assault, fined £4. John Caton, Daniel Davins, and Benjamin Cawood, guilty, and sentenced to short terms of imprisonment. The rest of the prisoners were acquitted.

11th. Charles Bland Child, of Middle-row, Camp-field, and John Child, of Brewery-field, Leeds, both brothers, and married men, after drinking together at the Black Lion, Mill-hill, until a late hour on the evening of the 11th, commenced quar-

1844 — JUNE.

relling on their road home, and got to fighting in Camp-field. During the fight John stabbed his brother in three or four different places in the body, with a clasp-knife. One of the wounds was three inches deep, and had gone through the lungs and penetrated the heart. The unfortunate man only lived a few minutes. John Child was committed to York on a charge of manslaughter, and at the summer assizes on the 20th of July, he was found guilty and transported for twenty years.——13th. Chat Moss, which is traversed by the Liverpool and Manchester railway for several miles, took fire in three different places, and burned over many hundreds of acres. The *first* fire broke out in a small field near the middle of the moss. The flames advanced as rapidly as a man could run towards the plantations and farms of Mr. Evans, Mr. Baines of Leeds, and other cultivators on Barton moss. The flames destroyed a belt of plantation on Mr. Evans farm, and another on Mr. Wright's. The *second* fire burst out on the Moss farm, near Bury-lane. It immediately spread into a wood of fir trees, which it nearly destroyed, and from there extended to the plantations at the back of Woollen hall, of which it burnt from forty to fifty acres. It then spread across the open moss, burning many hundred acres. The *third* fire broke out close to the new road from Astley station to the village of Astley. It spread rapidly east and south, so that in a short time the whole space between the Liverpool and Manchester railway, and the woods on the Worsley estate was a mass of fire. On the north the flames spread into Lord Egerton's woods, rising to the tops of the largest trees, and destroying great numbers of them. The fire continued its devastating course until Sunday evening, the 16th, when it was nearly burnt out. Large quantities of game of all kinds were destroyed. [Camden the antiquary states that in the time of Elizabeth a part of Chat Moss, raised by the waters from beneath, floated away by Glazenbrooke to the Irwell, in the Irish sea; but there has been no instance of any formidable conflagration on the moss in the memory of man, before the accident above described.]

24th. Leeds and the neighbourhood was visited by a violent thunderstorm. At two o'clock p.m. the whole town was almost enveloped in darkness. The flashes of lightning were very vivid, and the peals of thunder extremely loud and oft repeating. The hot-houses at Swillington hall were damaged to the value of several hundred pounds. Mr. C. Grange, carrier, on his way from Pateley Bridge to Leeds



1844.—JUNE.

had one of his horses killed and the other severely injured. At Horsforth the electric fluid set fire to a cottage. The branches of a fine tree were splintered, and a cow killed belonging to Mr. Stansfeld. At Bramley a chimney was thrown down and damage done to several dwellings. At Pudsey a large hay stack was completely severed in two and set on fire. Several houses were unroofed at Barwick-in-Elmet. At Gildersome two women, one the wife of Mr. Hartley, manufacturer, and the other named Harrison, were struck by the lightning and seriously injured. The storm did much damage at Huddersfield, flooding the streets in the lower part of the town four or five feet deep. At Halifax the streets in a line with Gibbet-street and Crow-street were covered with a broad stream of considerable depth. At Billingley, near Barnsley, Mr. Micklethwaite had a mare and foal killed. A calf and sheep belonging to Mr. Russell, of Hoyland, were killed. Mrs. Barker, of Edwardthorpe, had a calf killed whilst held in a string by a little girl, who was unhurt. At Selby, with the fall of the rain, there was a *shower of frogs*. Several were caught in their descent by holding out hats for that purpose. They were about the size of a horse bean and remarkably lively after their aerial but wingless flight.

[White in his *Natural History of Selborne* (Bohn's edition, page 70), ridicules the idea of frogs dropping from the clouds in rain; but the editor of that work, in a foot note, says, "I was once witness to a swarm of very small frogs, which suddenly made their appearance after a very heavy rain, in a garden I occupied at Fulham. The garden was completely surrounded by a high wall. The entrance to it was through the house. It was a dry gravel; and there was no moist place in it in which the spawn of frogs could have been deposited. The garden also had been well trenched and no frogs found in it. There also were no drains communicating with it. I merely mention the fact, without pretending to account for the circumstance of so many thousands of young frogs, just out of the tadpole state, being found in the garden. Mr. Loudon saw a similar occurrence at Rouen.]

On the 18<sup>th</sup> was celebrated the opening of the Newcastle and Darlington junction railway, which completed a chain of uninterrupted communication between Newcastle and London. The special train, which conveyed a party of directors and friends from London to Newcastle on the occasion, accomplished the journey, 303 miles, in nine hours and thirty-two minutes.—25<sup>th</sup>. Mr. John Andrew, jun., of Leeds, travelling secretary to the Temperance Society, being about to locate himself at Scarbro', his friends partook



1844.—JULY.

of tea together at the Music-hall; after which, an affectionate address, neatly framed and engrossed on vellum, together with a purse of sixty sovereigns, was presented to him as a testimonial of esteem for his long and valuable services in the temperance cause.

July 10th. A grand procession of the Oddfellows of the Manchester Unity, Leeds district, took place, and a gala for the benefit of the Widows and Orphans Fund in connection with the same order was held at the Leeds Botanical Gardens. The procession started from the White Cloth-hall in the following order:—

Marshals on horseback; crown of flowers, borne by members of the order; band of music, in military uniform, succeeded by the costly German-silver insignia of the Liverpool district, as follows:—Shepherds' crook, borne by the P.G.M. of the Leeds district, Mr. Dixon Croft; crozier, borne by Mr. John Geves, D.G.M. of the Leeds district; cross pens, borne by Mr. Alexander, provincial corresponding secretary; cross keys, borne by Mr. James Brown, district treasurer; lamb and flag, borne by P.P.G.M., Mr. Jonathan Taylor.

The following also forming part of the same elegant regalia, were borne by Past Grand Masters:—

Two sceptres, with crowns; two maces, with crowns; pair of globes with hand and heart; two sceptres, with cross, sun, moon, and stars; members of the Order four abreast, wearing rosettes and white gloves; arms of the Order, emblazoned on blue silk; band of music, in military uniform; eight coaches, containing widows and orphans; carriages and other vehicles, containing members and friends; band of music, in military uniform, preceded by banner, members four abreast, wearing rosettes and white gloves; banner, crown, and cushion, carried by four boys, &c., &c.

15th. The Dissenters Chapel Bill passed the House of Lords by a majority of five to one.——18th. At the York Assizes this day a verdict of manslaughter was returned against Thomas Rogan, John O'Brian, Daniel Donavan, Wm. Quinn, and Daniel Power, on an indictment for the wilful murder of Benjamin Gott, at Bradford, on the 27th of May last. On that day there were processions of several Orange lodges in Bradford and the neighbouring villages, accompanied by bands of music, of which the deceased was a bugle player. The prisoners commenced a furious attack on the musicians of the Calverley and Idle band as they were proceeding on the Undercliff-road, in consequence of their having played some objectionable tunes, such as "Croppies lie down," and "Boyne water," and inflicted such injury on Gott that he died in two days after. The prisoners were each sentenced to transportation for life.

1844.—Aug.

August 3rd. A female bigamist, with a halter round her neck, was sold for five shillings, in the butter and poultry market, Leeds, by her first husband, Geo. Woodhead, servant to Mr. Allen, farmer and butcher, at Hemsworth, near Doncaster, to her second husband, William Idle, collier, of Ouslewell Green, near Rothwell. The borough magistrates hearing of the affair summonsed Woodhead, and required him to enter into his own recognizances of £20, and his masters' surety for other £20, for his good behaviour during twelve months. Shortly after the wife was committed to York Castle to take her trial for bigamy, and was convicted, and suffered imprisonment.——5th. Ezekial Briggs, sexton of Bingley Parish Church, died, aged 84. He had filled the office during the whole of the present century, and in that time had interred upwards of 6,400 persons.

During the execution of William Saville, aged 29, at Nottingham, who was convicted at the late assizes of the wilful murder of his wife and three children, by cutting their throats, the crowd at the execution was so immense and the crush so tremendous that thirteen persons were trampled to death, and more than one hundred received injuries.——The proprietors of the Leeds New Gas Company presented to Mr. Alcock, their manager, a gratuity of one hundred guineas, as a tribute of respect.

9th. LEEDS VICARAGE ACT.—At the close of the year 1843, the Rev. Dr. Hook, then Vicar of Leeds, (now Dean of Chichester,) proposed a plan for the division of the parish and vicarage into a large number of district parishes and vicarages, and at a meeting of the Ecclesiastical Commissioners, held in January, 1844, they assented to the general principles of the intended arrangements. The bill received the Royal assent on the 9th of August, and cost the vicar from £600 to £700. By this measure the vicar relinquished much patronage and emolument, and perhaps no bill that affected so large a number of persons passed through Parliament with so little opposition. The churches at present (1859) constituted district parish churches and vicarages under the provisions of this act are :—St. John's ; St. Andrew's ; St. Saviour's ; All Saints' ; St. Stephen's ; St. Mary the Virgin, Hunslet ; St. Jude's, Hunslet ; St. John the Evangelist, Little Holbeck ; St. John the Baptist, New Wortley ; St. Matthias, Burley ; St. Michael's, Buslingthorpe ; Holy Trinity, Meanwood ; St. Michael's, Farnley. Before a church can become a separate vicarage under this act the entire sittings in the body of the church must be free.

14th. The Leeds Town Council authorized the Scavenging

1844.—Aug.

Committee to contract with the patentees of the street-sweeping machine, for the supply of one cart, for sweeping the streets.——28th. At the saw mills of Mr. John Townsend, Aire-street, Leeds, a log of mahogany was sawn, in the very midst of which, and quite surrounded with sound timber, was found a honey-comb, (of the humble bee) of considerable size, with the cells very perfect, and emitting a very strong smell of honey.

September. Bramley, near Leeds, was first lighted with gas.——10th. Died, suddenly, at Leamington, Mrs. Hook, mother of the Rev. W. F. Hook, D.D., vicar of Leeds.

26th. The annual meeting of the British Association for the Advancement of Science commenced at York. At this meeting Lord Rosse described his great reflecting telescope, the speculum of which has a diameter of six feet. It weighs nearly four tons, and has a tube of fifty feet focal length. By this wonderful instrument, nebulae irresolvable have been resolved into systems of stars, thus destroying the foundations of the nebular hypothesis.

Oct. 1st. The new factory act having commenced operation this day, about 3,000 factory workers in Leeds, mostly females struck work on account of the supposed obnoxiousness of some of its provisions.——12th. Louis Phillipe, king of the French, was at this time in England on a visit to Queen Victoria.——23rd. The Masonic brethren from the several lodges in the province of West-Yorkshire met in the large room, Royal Hotel, Halifax, to present a piece of plate to Charles Lee, Esq., of Leeds, as a token of their esteem. The plate consists of two splendid wine vases of frosted silver, the sides of which are open fret work, and lined inside with crimson glass. Round the rims of the vases, on the pedestal are grapes and vine leaves, with masonic emblems, beautifully carved. On the top is a silver wire trellising to hold a bouquet of flowers. They are supported on two silver stands, similarly ornamented, on one of which is engraved the following inscription:—

“Presented to Charles Lee, Esq., right worshipful deputy provincial grand master of the ancient free and accepted masons of West-Yorkshire, by his affectionate brethren, in grateful testimony of his high moral excellence, and sterling masonic worth, as well as of the consummate skill, and energetic zeal which our exalted brother has so devotedly and successfully exerted in his arduous and responsible office, to promote the prosperity, weal, and stability of our sacred order.  
A.D., 1844: A.L., 5, 843.”

24th. General Tom Thumb, *alias* Charles S. Stratton, the American man in miniature, was exhibited in Leeds at this

1844—Nov.

time. He stood only twenty-five inches high, with his boots ; was 13 years of age, and weighed fifteen pounds.

Nov. A fine marble bust of Dr. Hook, vicar of Leeds, from the chisel of Mr. Keyworth of Hull, was presented to Mrs. Hook, by nearly 200 subscribers, as a testimony of esteem.

*Leeds Municipal Election Extraordinary.*

July 24th, Bramley Ward, [Daniel Hainsworth.]

LEEDS MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS, 1st NOVEMBER, 1844.

The names in brackets were elected.

MILL-HILL, [Thomas Nunneley, L, and Edwin Birchall, jun., L.]  
WEST, [Joseph Richardson, R, and Geo. Robson, R.]—NORTH-  
WEST, [J. W. Smith, L, 244 ;] John Barrett, L, 137.—NORTH,  
[Joseph Horner, jun.]—NORTH-EAST, [William Heywood, C,  
359 ;] William Hartley, R, 180.—EAST, [James Dufton, R.]  
—KIRKGATE, [Richard Stead, C, 192 ;] Robert Wright, L, 161 ;  
John Wales, L, 9.—SOUTH, [H. Gresham, L, 106 ;] John Clarkson,  
R, 45 —HUNSLET, [Joshua Bower, R, 238 ;] Richard Bayldon,  
L, 76.—HOLBECK, [Jonathan Shackleton, L, 636 ; William Brook,  
R, 543 ;] D. W. Nell, L, 473.—BRAMLBY, [E. S. Calvert, L, and  
Benjamin Wilson, jun., L.]—HEADINGLEY, [Joseph Whitham, L,  
75 ;] William Scott, C, 46.

November 9th. Darnton Lupton, Esq., elected Mayor.

November 16th. West-Ward, *vice* Carbutt, Ald., Joseph Gill.  
—Hunslet Ward, *vice* Bower, Ald., William West.

The following gentlemen were elected aldermen :—

Nov. 9th Charles Gascoigne Maclea, John Hope Shaw, Henry  
Cowper Marshall, Matthew Gaunt, Joseph Henry Oates, Joseph  
Bateson, Joshua Bower, Francis Carbutt.

21st. The Poor-Law Commissioners issued an order that  
the administration of the laws for the relief of the poor in  
the *township* of Leeds, should on the 23rd of December,  
1844, and thenceforth be governed and administered by a  
board of (18) guardians. The result of the first election was  
declared on the 21st of December, by Robert Hall, Esq. to  
be as follows. Those within brackets were elected :—

EAST, (John Cawood, C, 666 ; W. B. Hainsworth, C, 599 ;) Joseph  
Watson, L, 276 ; George Hammond, L, 223.—KIRKGATE, (James  
Stables, C, 264 ; Daniel Wise, C, 246 ;) C. T. Tiffany, L, 146 ; Joseph  
Linsley, L, 142 —MILL-HILL, (Charles Scarbrough, C, 458 ; Wm.  
Reinhardt, C, 436 ; John Morfitt, C, 379 ;) Richard Bissington, L,  
300 ; Joseph Town, L, 293 ; Thomas Harvey, L, 256 ; Joseph  
Dickinson, R, 18.—NORTH, (James Ward, C, 732 ; Mark Walker,  
C, 725 ;) John Holmes, L, 326 ; Matthew Johnson, L, 255.—

1844.—Nov.

NORTH-EAST, (John Metcalfe, C, 921; William Brook, R, 852;) Joseph Woodhead, L, 198; Richard Lobley, L, 188.—NORTH-WEST, (Charles Bousfield, C, 717; John Ayrey, R, 574;) John Jowitt, L, 427; John Wade, L, 308.—SOUTH, (Martin Cawood, C, 292; John Jackson, R, 258;) Samuel Croft, L, 204; John Taylor, L, 164.—WEST, (P. L. Atkinson, C, 826; Robert Bean, C, 809; Daniel Atkinson, C, 785;) Arthur Lupton, L, 569; George Wise, L, 567; Benjamin Sherwood, L, 534. John Cawood was elected chairman, and John Beckwith clerk to the board.

Leeds is not in *union*, like some neighbouring towns, the persons who compose the Board of Guardians being chosen for the township alone, and having nothing whatever to do with the affairs of the out-townships. The collection of the rates devolves upon the overseers, or their assistants; but it is the province of the guardians to receive all applications for relief, and to decide on the amount to be given in each case, either on the statement made by the applicant, personally, or on the report furnished by the relieving officer, after visiting the family. The board is subject to the control of the Poor Law Board, at Somerset House, by whom inspectors are sent, specially, or periodically, to investigate and report to the superior authorities. The board meets every Wednesday, at half-past two o'clock.

30th. The wife of William Smith, a poor journeyman shoemaker, in a lodging-house, No. 39, York-street, Leeds, gave birth to three fine boys, though the first was the least of the three. They were baptized Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob.

Dec. 4th. A large meeting of free trade electors was held in the Music-hall, Leeds, to hear addresses from Richard Cobden, Esq., M.P., and John Bright, Esq., M.P.

10th. At the York assizes William Kendrew was found guilty of the wilful murder of William Inchbold, of Low Dinsworth, near Boroughbridge. He was executed on the 29th of December.

1845. Jan. A long inquiry took place before John Blackburn, Esq., the Leeds borough coroner, in reference to the death of Elizabeth Illingworth, the wife of William Illingworth, clockmaker, of Wortley-lane, Leeds, who had died from the effects of poison, and under circumstances of great suspicion, on the 12th of December, 1844. The coroner's inquiry resulted in a committal to York-castle, on a charge of wilful murder of Ann Simpson, a married woman, kept by the husband of the deceased. She was tried at York on March 18th, and was acquitted. She subsequently left

1845 —JAN.

England for America with Illingworth.——On the evening of the 12th a dense fog prevailed in Wakefield and the neighbourhood. The Leeds coach was upwards of four hours in travelling to that place. It was necessary to lead the horses, and blazing torches were carried by the side of the coach. Trains upon the railway had a difficulty in finding the stations, and one of them actually ran nearly four miles past the Wakefield station, before the engine-driver discovered his mistake.

February 8th. Died, in his 70th year, James Bischoff, Esq., of Highbury-terrace, near London, and formerly of Leeds. He was prominently connected with the trade of Yorkshire. He was the author of a work, in two octavo volumes, embellished with some good plates, entitled “A Comprehensive History of the Woollen and Worsted Manufacturers, and the Natural and Commercial History of Sheep, from the earliest records to the present period,” and of several valuable pamphlets intended to promote the repeal of the duties on wool and corn. Mr. Bischoff was very highly esteemed both in public and private life, and few men have acquired or deserved more fully the attachment of their friends. He was brother of the late Thomas Bischoff, Esq., and brother-in-law of Messrs. Stansfeld, of Leeds; having married Miss M. Stansfeld, by whom he had three sons, James, George, and Josiah, and five daughters. His family was of German extraction, and boasts among its ancestors the Reformer, Episcopius.——19th. A grand soiree of the Leeds Mechanics’ Institution and Literary Society took place in the Music-hall. Edward Baines, jun., Esq., president of the society, occupied the chair, and the meeting was addressed by Lord Morpeth and others. At this meeting the chairman presented to Mr. H. J. Marcus, one of the secretaries, a valuable and handsomely bound copy of Halem’s Constitutional History of England, his History of the Middle Ages, and his History of Literature, and to Mr. James Kitson, the other secretary, a splendid volume of Simms’s Public Works of Great Britain, for the important services they had rendered to the institution.

SIR THOMAS POTTER, a benevolent and energetic Reformer, was born at Tadcaster, Yorkshire, April 5th, 1774, died at his residence, Buile-hill, near Manchester, March 20th, 1845, in the 71st year of his age, the third son of Mr. John Potter, a Liberal politician, who, possessed of superior abilities, and enjoying the esteem of his neighbours and friends, cultivated a farm of about three hundred acres, called Wingate-

1845.—MARCH.

hill, near Tadcaster. His son Thomas, engaging in the duties of the farm, was so industrious, intelligent, and successful, that he gained prizes for superior cultivation, and was soon entrusted by his father with the sole management of the farm. In this pursuit Thomas Potter acquired tastes and skill, the exercise of which he continued throughout his life. Already his brothers, William and Richard, had established themselves in Manchester as general merchants, when, in 1803, Thomas, seeing that, however profitable agriculture had proved in his hands, the general Manchester business, then rising into importance, afforded a far superior field for intelligent and industrious enterprise, removed to the great centre of the cotton trade, and, in partnership with the brothers, began a concern which he conducted till his death, and from the proceeds of which he realised a handsome fortune, as well as obtained resources for a generous hospitality, and an almost profuse beneficence. Thomas Potter was elected Mayor of Manchester when it became a corporate town. In the second year of his mayoralty, Her Majesty, on the 1st of July, 1840, conferred on him the honour of knighthood. He was twice married. In 1807 he married Miss Palmer, of York, who died in 1810, leaving two daughters. In 1812 he married Esther, daughter of Thomas Bayley, Esq., of Booth Hall, near Manchester, by whom he had Thomas Potter and John Potter, merchants.

March 22nd. A cause was tried, by special jury, at York, for defamation of character, in which Mr. W. James, police-superintendent, Leeds, was plaintiff, and Mr. William Brook, tobacconist, and one of the town council of the borough, was the defendant. The action arose out of statements made by the defendant, to the effect that the plaintiff had had criminal connection at the Police-office with two women of the town, named Sheldon and Lister. The jury returned a verdict for the plaintiff, damages £45.

26th. St. Andrew's church, at the foot of St. Peter's-hill, Park-lane, Leeds, was consecrated by the Right Reverend the Lord Bishop of Ripon. This church has a district attached to it under Sir Robert Peel's act, and was built by subscription, in affectionate regard to the memory of the late Mrs. Sinclair, wife of the Rev. W. Sinclair, the late incumbent of St. George's. It is a neat fabric, in the early English style, from designs by George Gilbert Scott, Esq., of London. There are 852 free sittings, also a good organ. The benefice is now a vicarage, valued at £185, and is in the



1845.—APRIL.

patronage of the trustees. The Rev. B. Crosthwaite, M.A., is vicar.

Guardians of the Poor for the township of Leeds elected April 5th, 1845 :—

EAST WARD, John Cawood, W. B. Hainsworth.—KIRKGATE, John Braithwaite. Henry Waddington.—MILL HILL, Charles Scarbrough, John Morfitt, George Crabtree.—NORTH, James Ward, Mark Walker.—NORTH EAST, John Metcalf, William Brook.—NORTH WEST, Joseph Wood, John Ayrey.—SOUTH, Thomas Wilson, John Jackson.—WEST, contested, Robert Bean, 873; Daniel Atkinson, 877; Peter Law Atkinson, 760; defeated, Thomas Clarkson, 269. John Cawood was elected chairman.

May 2nd. In consequence of Nelson, the clown at Cook's circus, then at Yarmouth, having undertaken to swim in a tub drawn by four geese, from the drawbridge on the quay, to the suspension bridge across the north river, about 300 persons had collected on the suspension bridge to witness the feat. The bridge gave way, and precipitated them into the river. The scene was of a most heart-rending description. 150 unfortunate creatures met with a watery grave.

13th. The National Land company was founded by Fergus O'Connor, and adopted by a national convention of the chartist body. The company was subsequently wound up by the court of Chancery. The whole of the property being swallowed up in costs.

14th. The Leeds Town Council resolved to enlarge the Court-house, Park-row, at a cost of £9,000.

16th. Two silver waiters, a tea and coffee service, ink-stand, and basket were presented to the Rev. Joseph Holmes, D.D., on his retiring from the curacy of Trinity church, Leeds, by the congregation, as a token of their high respect and regard towards him, as curate of that church during a period of fourteen years.

An exhibition, styled the Leeds Polytechnic Exhibition, was open at this time at the Music-hall. The object of which was to provide public walks and baths for the people.

21st. Anthony Titley, Esq., of the firm of Titley, Tatham, and Walker, flax spinners, and a magistrate of the borough of Leeds, died very suddenly, at his residence, Wortley Lodge. Mr. Titley was much respected for his benevolent disposition and unassuming demeanour.

June 6th. Died, John Marshall, Esq., at his seat, Hallsteads, near Penrith, in the eightieth year of his age. The deceased was a native of Leeds, and is one of the most remarkable instances of men who have risen by their own

1845.—JUNE.

talents, perseverance, and enterprise, from moderate circumstances (his father is said to have occupied the shop, number one, at the bottom of Briggate), to the possession of a splendid fortune, and to a degree of honour and influence rarely attained but by the aristocracy of the land. Mr. Marshall was among the first persons in the county to attempt the spinning of flax by machinery, and his first manufactory was at Scotland mill, three or four miles from Leeds; after which he built the large mills in Water-lane, and also mills at Shrewsbury. At the general election of 1826, he was returned as one of the members for Yorkshire, and continued as such until 1830. It was at that time an unprecedented thing for a manufacturer to be elected member for Yorkshire. The family of Mr. Marshall was large, consisting of five sons and six daughters. It became allied by a triple union with that of Lord Monteagle. The noble lord himself married Miss Marshall, and two of his daughters were united to Mr. James and Mr. Henry Marshall. Another daughter was married to Professor Whewell, master of Trinity college, Cambridge. It is believed that the deceased amassed in landed and personal property, at least, a million and a half sterling. His will was proved on the 4th of July. The personal property, within the province of Canterbury, was sworn under £160,000. His sons, William, Henry Cowper, and James Garth were the executors. To his wife, he left an annuity of £3,000 for life, and a legacy of £60,000 absolutely. To his daughter, Lady Monteagle, a legacy of £20,000; and a legacy of £20,000 to each of his other married daughters, and left to each of them a large share from the residue of his personal estate. To his daughter, Ellen, £30,000, and large pecuniary bequests to others of the family, and legacies to his servants. To his eldest son, William, he left his mansion at Hallsteads, as well as his securities and stock in Pennsylvania and Ohio. Mr. Marshall's politics were of that shade termed Whig-Radical, and he nobly supported his party with his purse and personal influence, in various parts of Yorkshire, and especially in Leeds. Though a decided partizan himself, he was liberal and tolerant with regard to others; he was, however, one of the most strenuous opponents of factory legislation, but in these respects he did but follow the general bent of the manufacturing interest at that period. In private life he was amiable and unassuming.

19th. The new burial ground for the township of Hunslet, situate at Woodhouse-hill, was opened. The ground was

1845.—JULY.

provided by the town council, under the provisions of an act passed in 1842, entitled, "An Act for providing additional burial grounds in the parish of Leeds, in the West-Riding of the county of York." The cost was about £6,000, and comprises about ten acres. One-half is consecrated for the use of the established church. The Rev. Edward Wilson, B. A., is chaplain of the consecrated portion, and the Rev. A. Pickles of the unconsecrated portion.

July 8th. Died, Mrs. Lawrence, of Studley Park, the daughter of Wm. Lawrence, of Kirkby Fleetham, and grand-daughter of the late William Aislabie, Esq., of Studley Royal, to whose estates she succeeded in 1808, and was born at Kensington on the 18th Feb., 1761. By her will, she gave her estates at Studley, Fountain's, Ripon, Limdrick, Littlethorpe-with-Whitcliffe, Oldfield, and places south of the river Ure, to the Earl de Grey, except Kirkby Malzeard, the moors of Fountain's Earth, and Hackfall, which were given to the Earl of Ripon. To the latter nobleman she also gave her estates in the neighbourhood of Ripon, north of the river Ure, including Hutton Conyers, Sharrow, Copt Hewick, &c., &c. To each of these noblemen the property was limited for life, and then to go to Lord Goderich, son of the Earl of Ripon. Her estates in Leicestershire she gave to Sir Cornwallis Rickett; her estates in Kirkby Fleetham and Clint to Mr. Waller. Also legacies to the following:—the Vice-Chancellor of England and family, £30,000; Rev. James Charnock, £15,000; Miss Rebecca Charnock, £7,000; Miss Charnock, £2,000; Rev. John Charnock, £6,000; Robson's family, of Holtby, £9,000; Mr. Morton, her steward, £1,000; Dr. Quinn, her physician, £1,000; the Ripon Diocesan Church Building Society, £5,000; to the Ripon Dispensary, York Lunatic Asylum, Harrogate Hospital, Leeds Infirmary, Middlesex Hospital, the Rev. Robt. Poole, Miss Booth, and Miss Kelly, *each*, £1,000; Rev. J. Clarke, in trust for his family, £2,000; with legacies to the families of Sir Robert Rickett, Sir William Young, &c.; she also gave annuities to her domestic servants, varying from £10 to £70 a year.——The *Railway mania* was at this time at its height in London, Liverpool, Leeds, and Manchester. In these four great marts millions of money were turned over almost daily, and all ranks of the people, hardly excepting the operative class, partook in speculative feeling. Leeds was the leading share market for Yorkshire, and the operations there had a considerable influence on the movements in Lancashire. In July Leeds is said to have

1845.—JULY.

had at least 120 stock and share brokers, on and off the exchanges. The streets round about the three stock exchanges were at times thronged with anxious speculators and brokers. It was not an uncommon thing for one hundred thousand railway shares to be sold in one day in the Leeds share market. Early in August, in consequence of the amalgamation of several of the West Riding railway companies and a sudden and extraordinary advance in the price of shares, great embarrassment was caused amongst speculators by the absolute inability of vast numbers to fulfil their bargains, many having sold shares without possessing them, under the impression that they would be able to buy them in at a lower price before the time for delivery. The consequence was that thousands were ruined and scores of thousands suffered heavy loss. The mania exceeded in its extent and approached in its wildness any former instance of popular delusion.

In the spring of this year (1845) the Lord's Commissioners of the Admiralty determined on sending out an expedition to the arctic regions, in search of a north-west passage. The command was given to SIR JOHN FRANKLIN. The *Erebus* and *Terror*, the two vessels forming the expedition, with Captains Crozier and Fitzjames, 135 men in all—left the Thames on the 24th of May, 1845. The last dispatch received from Sir John was dated 12th of July the same year, from the Whalefish Islands. The voyagers were not expected home before the close of 1847; but that time having arrived without any intelligence of the ships, Government sent out in the early part of 1848, a searching expedition in three divisions. It returned without any tidings of the missing crew. For years, expedition after expedition was sent out for the same object, and more than once search had to be made for the searchers, until at length, Government refused any further assistance. It became a settled conviction with almost everybody, save one—the brave woman in whom conjugal devotedness still kept burning the fires of faith and hope—that the explorers had perished. Lady Franklin had already sent out four private expeditions; she determined to send yet one more, and that one was successful in ascertaining the fate of Sir John and his companions. The command of this expedition was entrusted to Captain M'Clintock, who left England in the yacht *Fox*, on the 1st of July, 1857, and returned on the 21st of September, 1859. The captain found at Point Victory, upon the north-west coast of King William's Island, a record, in a tin case among a quantity

1845.—JULY.

of loose stones, signed by Captains Crozier and Fitzjames, giving the information "that her majesty's ships *Erebus* and *Terror* spent their first winter at Beechy Island, after having ascended Wellington Channel to lat,  $77^{\circ}$  N., and returned by the west side of Cornwallis Island. On the 12th of September, 1846, they were beset in lat.  $70^{\circ} 05'$  N. and lon.  $98^{\circ} 23'$  W. Sir John Franklin died on the 11th June, 1847. On the 22nd April, 1848, the ships were abandoned five leagues to the N.N.W. of Point Victory, and the survivors, a hundred and five in number, landed here under the command of Captain Crozier." This paper was dated 25th April, 1848, and upon the following day they intended to start for the Great Fish River, or Back's River. The total loss by deaths in the expedition up to this date was nine officers and fifteen men. A vast quantity of clothing and stores of all sorts lay strewed about, as if every article was thrown away which could possibly be dispensed with; pickaxes, shovels, boats, cooking utensils, iron work, rope, blocks, canvas, a dip circle, a sextant, engraved 'Frederick Hornby, R.N.,' a small medicine chest, oars, &c. A few miles southward, across Back Bay, a second record was found, having been deposited by Lieutenant Gore and M. des Vœux in May, 1847. It afforded no additional information. In lat.  $69^{\circ} 09'$  N., and long.  $99^{\circ} 27'$  W., a large boat was discovered, which had no doubt been intended for the ascent of the Fish River, but it was abandoned apparently upon a return journey to the ships, the sledge upon which she was mounted being pointed in that direction. She measured 23 feet in length by  $7\frac{1}{2}$  feet wide, and was most carefully fitted, and made as light as possible, but the sledge was of solid oak, and almost as heavy as the boat. A large quantity of clothing was found within her, also two human skeletons. One of these lay in the after part of the boat, under a pile of clothing; the other, which was much more disturbed, probably by animals, was found in the bow. Five pocket watches, a large quantity of silver spoons and forks, and a few religious books, were also found, but no journals, pocket-books, or even names upon any articles of clothing. Two double-barrelled guns stood upright against the boat's side, precisely as they had been placed eleven years before. One barrel in each was loaded and cocked; there was ammunition in abundance, also 30lb or 40lb of chocolate, some tea, and tobacco. Fuel was not wanting; a drift-tree lay within 100 yards of the boat. An intelligent old woman, whom Captain M'Clintock found on King William's Island, told him that

1845.—JULY.

it was in the fall of the year when the ships got fixed in the ice, and that "many of the white men dropped by the way as they went towards the great river." This was ascertained by the natives the year after, when the bodies of the unfortunate men were discovered. Ten miles eastward of Cape Herschel was discovered "a bleached skeleton," around which lay fragments of European clothing. A small pocket-book was found among the snow, the contents of which may yet be deciphered. This poor fellow is conjectured to have been an officer's servant, or steward, whose strength failed him on the route, and who fell there to die. From the above and other records found by Captain M'Clintock, coupled with the fact that Dr. Rae, in July, 1854, met a party of Esquimaux who told him they had found the bodies of thirty white men, it is supposed that not one survivor remains of the ill-fated Franklin expedition.

14th. In the council chamber at the Leeds Court-house, Edward Baines, Esq. in the chair, was presented to Mr. Luke Marsh, an elegant and valuable silver epergne and fruit basket, and to Matthew Johnson, Esq., an elegant and valuable silver tea-pot, and ink-stand, as tokens of esteem for their long and efficient services as overseers of the poor. Mr. Marsh's present bore the following inscription :—

"Presented to Luke Marsh, Esq., as a token of respect for his untiring zeal, and efficiency as a member of the Leeds Workhouse Board, during a period of fifteen years. May, 1845."

Mr. Johnson's bore the following inscription :—

"Presented to Matthew Johnson, Esq., as a token of esteem and respect for his able and efficient services in parochial business during the twenty-one years he has been a member of the Leeds Workhouse Board. May, 1845."

19th. A dreadful fire occurred in New York, America, which destroyed three hundred buildings, most of them large—from three, four, and five stories high, and occupied principally by importing and other merchants. The damage was estimated at a million and a half sterling.

The 102nd annual Wesleyan conference commenced in Leeds, on Wednesday the 30th of July.

August 28th. A public dinner patronized by all the magistrates of the district, &c., was given to all men and women in Saddleworth, aged 77 years and upwards; of which dinner 132 old people partook, whose individual ages averaged more than 80 years.

Sept. Mrs. Bacon, of Bradford, made an endowment to



1845.—SEPT.

Airedale college of £8,000, vested in the 3 per cent consols, the interest of which is to be expended in the education of the students in the college, preparing for the exercise of the christian ministry amongst the Independent churches.

10th. The Rev. J. E. Giles having resigned the ministry of the Baptist chapel, South-parade, Leeds, to accept a pastorate at Bristol, a public meeting was held in the chapel, Dr. Smiles in the chair, for the purpose of conveying to the Rev. gentleman a public expression of thanks, and of hearing a farewell address on religious freedom.——24th. Five persons were killed by the bursting of a boiler at Victoria mill, Batley-carr, near Dewsbury, namely :—John Foster, (22) John Clarkson, (25) Joseph Brook, (16) John Stead, (17) and Maria Leather, (15).

Oct. 8th. The Leeds town council resolved to rent a field in Woodhouse-lane, at the end of Cobourg-street, in which the summer and winter horse and cattle fairs should be held, instead of Upperhead-row, and the neighbourhood.

20th. A railway engine which was sent from the Masbro' station to assist the mail train on the Midland railway, ran into the latter near Cudworth, thereby causing the death of Wm. Fuller Boteler, Esq., of Oulton, near Leeds, one of the Commissioners of the Leeds Bankruptcy court, and serious injury to several other persons. Serjeant Stubbs, one of the Leeds police officers was so seriously injured that he died on the 19th of November following. The coroners jury subsequently returned a verdict of manslaughter against Joseph Wheatley the driver of the pilot engine.——23rd. Charles Kemble, Esq. gave the first of five Shakesperian readings, before the members of the Leeds Philosophical and Literary Society, at the Music-hall.

The first sod of the Leeds and Thirsk Railway was cut by Edwin Eddison, Esq., in October, this year ; Mr. Bray, the contractor, laid the first stone of the Bramhope tunnel, in July, 1846 ; the first locomotive passed through the tunnel on the 31st of May, 1849 ; the directors opening took place on the 9th of July, 1849 ; and the line was opened to the public on the 10th of the same month. The tunnel is two miles and 243 yards long.

29th. The foundation stone of St. Saviour's church, Cavalier-hill, East-street, Bank Leeds, was laid 14th Sept., 1842, and the church was consecrated by the Bishop of Ripon ; Oct. 29th, 1845. It is built of stone ; the style the decorated Gothic, in the form of a cross, with a tower, but the spire is left unfinished ; having a chancel transepts, nave, and nave



1845.—Oct.

aisles. The roof is waggon-headed, and plastered between the timbers. The windows are of rich stained glass; in the great west window the Crucifixion is portrayed, with the three Maries, and St. John; other saints are also introduced. In the east window is represented our Lord's Ascension to heaven, and the Apostles kneeling in adoration. The pavement of the church is composed of red and black tiles placed alternately. The chancel is lighted entirely by wax candles, which are placed in sconces projecting from the walls. In the chancel are three elaborate canopied seats for the officiating clergy, and a piscina, all on the south side. An exquisitely carved oak screen separates the chancel from the rest of the church, and a canopy over it, in which canopy is a painted emblem of the Holy Trinity. Over the principal entrance within the church, is placed in emblazoned letters the following sentence:—"Ye who enter this holy place, pray for the sinner who built it." This structure was erected at the cost of near £10,000, by an unknown benefactor, (supposed to be Dr. Pusey). St. Saviour's district was constituted a parish in 1846, and a vicarage-house has since been erected. The patronage is vested in trustees. All the seats are free. The Rev. C. H. Collins is vicar. It is said that the church was to have been called the church of the "Holy Cross," but the bishop of the diocese refused consecration under that designation. The first incumbent was removed for introducing the ceremonies of the Church of Rome.

## LEEDS MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS, 1st NOVEMBER, 1845.

The names in brackets were elected.

MILL-HILL, [John Jowitt, jun., L; and J. S. Barlow, L.]—WEST, [John Botterill, L, 316; George Morton, L, 316;] Richard Bramley, C, 302; John Beckwith, C, 299.—NORTH, WEST, [Thos. White, R, 166;] Arthur Lupton, jun, L, 81.—NORTH, [Thomas Hall.]—NORTH-EAST, [John Metcalfe, C.]—EAST, [Martin Cawood, C, 476;] J Thompson, R, 464.—KIRKGATE, [George Bulmer, C, 177;] T. Scholey, R, 101.—SOUTH, [Arthur Megson, L 132;] Stephen Chappel, C, 72.—HUNSLET, [John Carr, L.]—HOLBECK, [John Pollard, L, 716; W. E. Hepper, L, 816;] Barratt, R, 601; John Ardill, R, 599.—BRAMLEY, [John Lister, C; and Robert Atkinson, L.]—HEADINGLEY, [Jarvis Brady, R.]

John Darnton Luccock, Esq, mayor.

Nov. 4th, 5th, and 6th. Great rejoicings took place at Harewood House, in commemoration of Viscount Lascelles

1845.—Nov

having attained his majority, and of his recent marriage to Lady Elizabeth Joan de Burgh, daughter of the Marquis of Clanricarde. Old English hospitality was dispensed with a very liberal hand, and few there were who came away empty. A roasted ox, weighing fifty stones, twenty butts of ale, and one thousand 4-lb. loaves were distributed. The day was spent in racing and other sports. On the evening of the 5th, a grand county ball took place, for which five hundred invitations had been issued. The festivities closed on Saturday the 6th by a treat given to the children of Harewood and the surrounding villages.

10th. The foundation stone of St. Philip's church, Bean-Ing, Wellington-road, Leeds, was laid this day. It bore this inscription :—

"The first stone of this church, intended for the new parish of St. Philip, Leeds, was laid by John Gott, Esq., on behalf of the subscribers, on the 10th of November, A.D. 1845. *Soli Deo Gloria.* William. Sinclair, M.A., incumbent of St. George's, Leeds. R. D. Chantrell, architect."

It was consecrated in Oct., 1847, and was built by subscription on ground given by Messrs. Gott, who also aided by liberal contributions. It was endowed by the ecclesiastical commissioners with £150. The style is of the decorated early English, plain but substantial. It cost £5,000, and will accommodate 500 persons, half of the seats being free. It is in the alternate patronage of the Crown and the Bishop of Ripon. There is a school attached. The Rev. G. Thomas, B.A., is the present incumbent.

12th. The first soiree of the Kirkstall Mechanics' Institute, took place this day, J. G. Marshall, Esq., in the chair.

18th. Died, aged 48, James Williamson, Esq., M.D., of Stretton Hall, Cheshire, for many years resident in Leeds, and the second mayor under the municipal corporations act. His professional life was spent almost entirely in Leeds, where he rose to the head of his profession. In the Philosophical and Literary Society of the town he took a prominent part. He was elected physician to the Leeds Infirmary and the House of Recovery; lectured at the Leeds School of Medicine, which he assisted to form, and for a time was co-editor of the North of England Medical and Surgical Journal.

Dec. 19th. Died, aged 69, Lord Wharnccliffe, second son of the Hon. James Archibald Stuart Wortley Mackenzie.

1845.—DEC.

He was born on the 6th of October, 1776, and received his education at the Charter House. At the early age of fifteen—namely, in 1791—he first carried his majesty's colours as an ensign in the 7th Fusiliers. In 1792 his regiment was ordered to Canada, whither he accompanied it, and returned with it to England in 1795. Having exchanged into the 91st Highlanders, he accompanied that regiment to the Cape of Good Hope, whence he returned in 1797, with despatches from Earl Macartney. He soon after purchased a company in the 1st Foot Guards, with the rank of Lieutenant-colonel, and he finally quitted the army at the peace of 1801. On the death of his eldest brother, in Jan., 1797, (he being then Stuart Wortley) succeeded him in the representation of the borough of Bossiney, in Cornwall; which he continued to represent till 1818. On the 1st of March in that year, Colonel Stuart Wortley Mackenzie, his father died, and his son succeeded to his large inheritance. He was returned for Yorkshire jointly with Lord Milton, at the general election of 1818, and represented the county till 2nd of June, 1826. He was elevated to the peerage on the 12th of July, 1826. On the introduction of the Reform Bill by Lord Grey, in 1831, Lord Wharncliffe strenuously opposed that measure. When Sir Robert Peel was recalled from Italy, in November, 1834, to form a Conservative Government, Lord Wharncliffe was appointed Lord Privy Seal. In 1841 he accepted the post of President of the Council in the new administration. Independent of minute attention to public business, the deceased was an active magistrate, having for many years acted as chairman of the West-Riding Sessions; he was also Colonel of the South Yorkshire Yeomanry Cavalry, one of the most efficient corps on the roll. To his love for active business he added considerable literary taste, as is evinced by his splendid edition of "Lady Mary Wortley Montagu's Letters." His chief merit lay in his aptitude for the business of active life. As the representative of Yorkshire he was never exceeded either for knowledge or industry, and his legal acquirements were of a high order. As a public speaker he was rather forcible than eloquent—more argumentative than ornamental. As a minister of state, he combined sound judgment with great practical energy. On the 30th of March, 1799, he married Lady Elizabeth Caroline Mary Creighton, daughter of John the first Earl of Erne, by his second wife, Lady Mary Hervey, daughter of Frederick, Earl of Bristol, Bishop of Derry. By this lady, who survived him, he had issue three sons and two daughters.

1846.—JAN.

1846. In this year, during the excavation for the erection of a house on the ridge of the hill above Battye-wood, at Headingley, near Leeds, a number of coins were discovered; they were contained in an urn, or earthenware vessel. Several of them are in the possession of James Wardle, Esq., of Leeds.

Jan. 6th. Died, John Cawood, Esq., of Leeds. He was long and honourably known to his fellow-townsmen, for his active benevolence and public spirit. He was a zealous supporter of the public charities of the town, especially of the House of Recovery, and the Benevolent, or Stranger's Friend Society. He had been a member of the Workhouse Board, and recently chairman, a member of the town council, churchwarden, improvement commissioner, &c.

14th. About 400 gentlemen sat down to a sumptuous dinner at the Music-hall, Leeds, after which a meeting was held to promote the objects of the anti-corn-law league. The mayor of Leeds, J. D. Luccock, Esq., presided, after which addresses were delivered by Wm. Aldam, junr., Esq., M.P., R. Cobden, Esq., M.P., J. Bright, Esq., M.P., Col. Thompson, &c. It was announced at this meeting that the league fund amounted to a quarter of a million sterling, more than half of which had been subscribed within the course of one month.——21st. The business of the Leeds Post-office was this day transferred from Mill-hill to Albion-street, in consequence of the former premises being too small for the increased business of the office.——The Rt. Hon. Henry Earl of Harewood, was appointed Lord Lieutenant of the West-Riding of the county of York.

Feb. 4th. In consequence of the Hon. John Stuart Wortley, M.P., succeeding to the peerage, under the title of Lord Wharncliffe, Lord Morpeth was elected without opposition for the West-Riding of Yorkshire. On the same day at the Corn Exchange, Wakefield, upwards of 500 of the friends and supporters of Lord Morpeth sat down to a substantial and choice repast, after which his lordship addressed the meeting.——9th. A special general meeting of the shareholders of the Leeds and West-Riding Bank was held this day at the Royal-hotel, Leeds, when it appeared that the liabilities of the company were about £350,000, and the assets £300,000, showing a deficiency of £50,000, which loss would have to be borne by the shareholders. On the 9th of December following, a fiat in bankruptcy was issued against the company.——23rd. The first stone of the Morley tunnel, (which is 3,420 yards long,) on the Leeds, Dewsbury,

1846.—FEB.

and Manchester railway, was laid at the Batley end of the tunnel by John Gott, Esq. On the mallet, and also on the trowel was neatly engraved the coat of arms of Mr. Gott, and the following inscription :—

“ Presented by the contractors of the Morley tunnel, to John Gott, Esq., chairman of the Leeds, Dewsbury, and Manchester railway, on the occasion of laying the first stone of that work, Feb. 23rd, 1846.”

Before depositing the stone there were placed within a recess, a gold, a silver, and a copper coin, of the realm, together with the Leeds newspapers, and other documents ; and upon the stone was fixed a brass plate with the following inscription :—

“ This, the first stone of the Morley tunnel, of the Leeds, Dewsbury, and Manchester railway, was laid by the chairman, John Gott, Esq., of Armley, near Leeds, on Monday, 23rd February, 1846. *Directors*:—Christopher Beckett, Thomas Benyon, Joseph Brook, Wm. Williams Brown, Thos. Cooke, James Garth Marshall, David Wm. Nell, and Thomas Starkey. Thomas Granger, *Engineer*. Jones and Pickering, *Contractors*.”

24th. The foundation stone of the parish church at Keighley was this day laid by F. Greenwood, Esq., of Ryshworth Hall.——At this time there was a subscription opened at Hatfield, near Doncaster, of ninety subscribers at £1 each, to raffle for three cottages at Hatfield Woodhouse. A party at Stainforth, not being sufficiently rich to subscribe, clubbed a shilling each to make up a share ; in order to make up one of these shilling shares, twelve boys paid a penny each. On the lotteries been drawn the prize fell upon the subscription lottery from Stainforth. The twenty subscribers of a shilling each again drew lots, and the lucky member was that for which the twelve had subscribed their penny each. This was again drawn and a boy named Dyson Wilson, six years old became the possessor of the three cottages, worth £90, for the sum of *one penny*.

March. The state of the money market at this time was exceedingly trying, and produced a great depression of trade ; at Bradford especially the labouring classes had to endure many privations, 888 families were without the means of subsistence. The distress was aggravated by the stoppage of Messrs. Rouse and Sons, works, by which 3,000 hands were thrown out of employment.——12th. A densely crowded meeting was held at the Music-hall, Leeds, in favour of Lord Ashley's ten hours bill. His lordship attended and addressed the meeting. Public meetings were held at Bradford, Dewsbury, and other places, on the same subject.

1846.—MARCH.

30th. The foundation stone of the Wharfedale viaduct, on the Leeds and Thirsk railway, was laid by Henry Cowper Marshall, Esq. The viaduct is formed of stone, and embraces 25,000 cubic yards of masonry. It is 470 yards long, consists of 21 arches, of an elegant semi-elliptical form of 60 feet span. Its greatest height is 90 feet, and its least height 60 feet.

April 2. Died, aged 82, Benjamin Simmonds, for thirty years horn blower to the late corporation of the old borough of Ripon. The deceased always took precedence in all processions, and on gala days he bore the state horn, tipped with gold, the emblem of the borough and city arms. He blew his horn each evening, at nine o'clock, at the mayor's door and the market-cross. The origin of the custom of blowing the horn in Ripon has been thus described by an old writer :—"It was, indeed, the custom of the *Vigillarius* or *Wakeman*, to order that a horn should be blown every night at nine o'clock ; and if any house or shop was broken open, or robbed, after that blowing of the horn, till the rising of the sun, why then the loss was obliged to be made good to the suffering inhabitant. For this obligation or insurance, every householder used to pay fourpence a year ; but if there was a back door to another street, from which double danger might be supposed, then it was to be eightpence." The tax is discontinued, though the horn is still blown at the accustomed hour. It is said that the deceased excelled all previous horn blowers for the length and strength of blast :—

"But now no more they'll hear his blast,  
For Benjamin has blown his last."

4th. The journeymen painters and joiners at Leeds turned out for an advance of wages.——Owing to the heavy fall of rain at this time there were great floods in Yorkshire. The river Aire and other rivers were swollen to a great height, in many places overflowing their banks, and doing immense damage.

Guardians of the Poor for the township of Leeds elected April 5th, 1846 :—

EAST WARD, Wm. Burrow Hainsworth.——KIRKGATE, John Braithwaite, Henry Waddington.——MILL HILL, John Kighley Clapham, Wm. Christian Kettlewell.——NORTH, contested, James Ward, 653 ; Benjamin Powell, 588 ; defeated, John Barrett, 419.——NORTH EAST, contested, John Metcalfe, 737 ; John Morfitt, 631 ; defeated, William Brook, 329.——NORTH WEST, contested, Joseph Wood, 391 ; Joseph Hall, 418 ; defeated, John Ayrey, 337.——

1846.—APRIL.

SOUTH, contested, Samuel Croft, 338; John Kirk, 336; defeated, Thomas Wilson, 125; John Jackson, 142.—WEST, contested, Robert Bean, 720; Peter Law Atkinson, 735; Daniel Atkinson, 749; defeated, William Avens, 491; Thomas Clarkson, 400; James Shires, 391.

John Metcalfe was elected chairman.

The people of Ireland at this time were dying by thousands of starvation, owing to the failure of the potatoe crop, and other causes.

May 17th. About midnight, Mr. Joshua Burton, son of John Burton, Esq., Roundhay, eloped with Miss Fanny Wilkinson, eldest daughter of John Wilkinson, Esq., of Gledhow-mount. A post-chaise carried the lovers to Gretna Green, where they were married the next day at four p.m.

21st. Died, suddenly, aged 64, Thomas Benson Pease, Esq., of Chapel-Allerton Hall, near Leeds. The deceased was a member of the Society of Friends, and had for many years previous to his death been a member of the Leeds Corporation, an alderman of the borough, &c.

The town council elected Edward Baines, Esq., an alderman in the place of the deceased, but he respectfully declined the honour, as he found his strength unequal to the performance of new duties. On the 17th of June John Wilson, Esq., of Armley Grange, was elected to the office.

25th. Louis Napoleon Bonaparte made his escape from the fortress of Ham, where he had been imprisoned several years. The prince took advantage of some repairs that were going on, to disguise himself as a workman, and actually passed the various sentinels with a plank on his shoulder. He arrived in London on the following day. The fortress at the time was guarded by 400 soldiers, sixty of whom were on duty outside the wall.

31st. The line of railway from Leeds to Bradford, passing through Kirkstall, &c., was opened this day, and the opening was celebrated on the 30th of June following.

June 1st. Pope Gregory XVI. died at Rome, Cardinal Ferreth, bishop of Imola, was elected his successor.

6th. Died, at Leamington, aged 73, Henry Leah, Esq., of Manningham-lane, and of Bierley iron-works, near Bradford. The deceased was born of humble parents, and first started life as a common artizan. He had very little advantage from early education, but by the force of his natural talents and rectitude of character, he, at a comparatively early age, became the lessee of the large iron-works at Bierley, and realised a large fortune.



1846.—JUNE.

On the morning of Sunday, the 14th of June, nine individuals from the neighbourhood of Batley, were publicly baptized in the river Calder, at Dewsbury, according to the rites of the Primitive Baptist church, in the presence of more than 1000 persons.——Mr. Rowland Hill had a national testimonial presented to him, in the shape of £13,000, for his services in suggesting and carrying into execution the system of uniform penny postage.

17th. The electric telegraph was this day completed from Rugby to Leeds.——The Leeds town council voted £30,000 to the Streets Committee, for the purpose of constructing main sewers in all the principal streets in the town.

Mrs. Carr, of Knowsthorpe House, Leeds, left legacies to the Leeds Infirmary, £500; the Leeds Public Dispensary, £100; the Society for Propagation of the Gospel, £100; the Leeds District Christian Knowledge Association, £100; St. Peter's Parochial Sunday schools, £100; St. Peter's (Bank) schools, £100; National schools, Leeds, £100; the Leeds House of Recovery, £100.

25th. The subject of the corn laws caused a disruption of the Conservative party. The ministry of Sir Robert Peel was defeated on the Irish Coercion Bill. Lord John Russell subsequently formed a ministry.

26th. CORN LAW REPEAL.—At the close of the year 1845, the Anti-Corn Law agitation, under the leadership of Messrs. Cobden and Bright, had begun to have its effect on those in power. Large meetings had been held in all the principal towns in the kingdom; at Leeds, on the 25th of Nov. and the 3rd of Dec.; at Bradford, on the 28th of Nov. At Wakefield, a great West-Riding meeting took place on the 17th of Dec. On the 4th of Dec., the *Times* announced that Sir Robert Peel was about to summons Parliament, and to “recommend an immediate consideration of the Corn Laws, preparatory to their total repeal.” On January 27th, 1846, Sir Robert Peel declared this to be his intention. The measure was introduced on the 9th of February, and proposed a total repeal of the Corn Laws, subject to a moderate duty for three years. The debate extended over twelve nights. The third reading of the bill was carried at four o'clock on the morning of the 16th of May, by a majority of 98 in a house of 556 members. The bill passed the Lords on the 22nd of June, and became law on the 26th of the same month. As soon as the intelligence arrived in Leeds by telegraph of the passing of the bill, a salute of 21 guns was fired at the establishment of Messrs. Kitson, Thompson, and Hewitson's,

1846.—JUNE.

Hunslet-lane, and all the men immediately turned out and gave three hearty cheers. Cannons were also fired at other places during the evening, and at two o'clock the bells of the parish church struck up a merry peal. Messrs. Taylor and Wordsworth had a large loaf fixed at the top of their works, inscribed "Free Traders of Holbeck."

July 13th. The members of the Leeds Mechanics' Institution had a special excursion to Wentworth Park, the seat of Earl Fitzwilliam. Other institutions had trips on the same day to the same place, so that there were not less than 5,000 persons in the grounds. A serious accident occurred in connection with the excursion from Leeds. Robert Neal, keeper of the tap at the Bull and Mouth hotel, was carelessly standing on the seat, and at the end of one of the carriages when the drag was put on to stop the train, he fell backwards over the carriage and pulled a person named John Salter along with him. They were both killed. Salter was in the employ of Messrs. Gott's, Leeds. On the Sunday following the accident, Neal and Salter were interred in the burial ground of the Leeds parish church, in the presence of a vast concourse of spectators.——16th. Lord Morpeth having accepted the office of First Lord Commissioner of Woods and Forests, vacated his seat for the West Riding of Yorkshire, but was re-elected this day without opposition.

Aug. 1st. A most terrific and destructive thunder and hail-storm occurred at London, and for miles round, doing immense damage, and by which several lives were lost. Hailstones were picked up weighing from an ounce to an ounce and a half.——5th. Died, at Holbeck, in his 65th year, Mr. Jonathan Shackleton, a member of the Society of Friends. He was an active and efficient member of the Leeds town council, and much respected by his colleagues. He was also a true philanthropist, being ever ready to aid any institution which had for its object the general good of mankind. A lasting monument of his perseverance and zeal may be found in the establishment of Zion School, New Wortley, near Leeds, of which he was the principal promoter, and most liberal subscriber.——7th. The afternoon of this day was kept as a holiday at Leeds, in celebration of the abolition of the Corn-laws. Mr. Charles Green, the great aeronaut made a balloon ascent from the White Cloth-hall. Mr. Pablo Fanque's equestrian troop performed during the day on Woodhouse moor. The entertainments closed with a splendid display of fireworks by Mr. Darby of London.

25th. An excellent engraved portrait of Mr. Edward

1846.—Aug.

Baines, junr., in a handsome gilt frame, was presented to the committee of the Leeds Mechanics' Institute by 500 penny subscribers, as a token of esteem for services rendered to the institution during the time he was president in 1845-46.

Sept. 4th. Died, aged 34, Catherine Haddin, commonly known as "Kitty Haddin," of Huddersfield. She was very popular as a politician, and was the stoutest woman of which the town could boast, possessing the uncommon bulk of twenty-two stones.——On the 7th, 8th, and 9th, of September, at the Victoria Cricket ground, Woodhouse, Leeds, there was a most exciting and interesting match at cricket between eleven of all England, *versus* eighteen of Yorkshire. The all England players were V. Smith, Esq. from Bedford, Alfred Mynn, Esq., Mr. F. Pilch, Mr. Dorrington, and Mr. Hillier, from Kent, Mr. Clarke, Mr. Guy, and Mr. Butler from Nottingham, Mr. Martingell, and Mr. Sewell from Surrey, and Mr. Dean from Sussex. The Yorkshire players were R. Cadman, Esq., Mr. Hargreave, Mr. Barrett, and Mr. Ibbetson of Leeds, Mr. A. Crossland, Mr. J. Crossland, and Mr. G. Berry, from Dalton, Mr. J. Wade from Harewood, Mr. J. North, and Mr. J. Fawcett from Boroughbridge, Mr. Hall, Mr. Ingle, Mr. Barker, Mr. Wadsworth, Mr. Abel, Mr. Burlinson, and Mr. Foster from Bradford, and Mr. Chatterton from Wentworth. The final score was all England :—first innings 102, second do. 125, total 227. Yorkshire first innings, 72, second do. 84, total 156. The Yorkshire players therefore were vanquished by 71 runs, 63 of the score, however, being byes, wide balls, and no balls, while Yorkshire added to their score but 8 from similar balls.——26th. Died at Playford-hall, Suffolk, aged 86, Thomas Clarkson, Esq., the philanthropist.

Oct. 6th. A grand soiree of the Bradford Mechanics' Institute took place, at which Lord Morpeth presided.

9th. The foundation stone of the Huddersfield station, of the Huddersfield and Manchester railway company, was laid by the Rt. Hon. the Earl Fitzwilliam.——18th. Mr. Elihu Burritt, known as "the learned blacksmith" of the United States, who by his own diligence had made himself master of fifty languages, delivered at the hall of the Leeds Mechanics' Institution a lecture, on "The divine philosophy of physical labour."——23rd. A grand soiree of the Leeds Mechanics' Institute was held at the Music-hall, Albion-street, Earl Fitzwilliam in the chair. The members of parliament for the borough, and other friends of science and education were present, and took part in the proceedings.

1846—Nov.

## LEEDS MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS, 1st NOVEMBER, 1846.

The names in brackets were elected.

MILL-HILL, [John Moorhouse, L; Anthony Titley, C.]—WEST, [Joseph Gill, L; John Greaves, L.]—NORTH-WEST, [G. J. Crowther, L.]—NORTH, [William Mawson, L.]—NORTH-EAST, [John Morfitt, C.]—EAST, [Wm. Wilkinson, C, 495;] John Chalk Barrett, L. 420.—KIRKGATE, [Edward Bond, C, 176;] John Yewdall, L, 145.—SOUTH, [J. Broadhead, L.]—HUNSLET, [J. Wilson, L.]—HOLBECK, [G. B. Pearson, L, 845; William Ingham, L, 830;] John Jackson, R, 810; John Ardill, R, 798.—BRAMLEY, [Thos. Haigh, C, Abraham Farrer C.]—HEADINGLEY, [George Hirst, C.]  
Nov. 9th. Charles Gascoigne Maclea Esq., was elected mayor.

On the 4th of November, Colonel Tempest gave a large tree to the lads of Tong, near Bradford, for the purpose of making a bonfire. They had felled the tree, but the wicked boys at Westgate-hill stole it in the night. The Tong lads hearing of the theft sallied out in great force. A terrible fight ensued on Westgate-hill, between the parties, in which great injury was done to divers heads. Tong prevailed, and the youths reached home with their trophy at twelve o'clock at night, and in honour of the triumph the bells of Tong church rung a merry peal.—12th. The foundation stone of the parish church of St. John's, Upper Thong, was laid by Thomas Gleadow Fearne, M.A., clerk, incumbent.

16th. Dr. Heaton was elected physician to the Leeds House of Recovery, in the place of Dr. Wilson, resigned.

18th. Died, at Harehills, Griffith Wright, Esq., a magistrate of the borough of Leeds, and the last mayor under the old corporation. He was twice on the commission of peace for Leeds. He was also one of the patrons of the Leeds vicarage, and a trustee of the grammar school and the pious uses. In all these capacities he was remarkable for his assiduity to public business. The *Leeds Intelligencer* was established by his grandfather, Mr. Griffith Wright, on the 2nd of July, 1754; he relinquished it to his son, Thomas, and he again to his son, Griffith. The last named gentleman edited his own journal, and conducted it with great spirit, ability, and success until December, 1818, when he retired from business. In private life his kind and cheerful disposition, and amiable virtues, endeared him to all his connexions and friends. He was unmarried, and in the 62nd year of his age. He was interred at Chapeltown church.—The woolcombers of Keighley were at this time on the strike.—30th. A public meeting was held in the Leeds Music-hall, in favour of

1846.—DEC.

the ten hours' bill. Dr. Hook, the vicar, presided, and the meeting was addressed by Mr. Oastler, Mr. Busfield Ferrand, and others.

Dec. 4th. The Rev. Thos. Scales, pastor of Queen-street chapel, Leeds, had presented to him, by his congregation, as a testimonial of esteem, a very handsome silk purse, containing one hundred guineas.——21st. The Oddfellows of the Manchester Unity held a grand public soiree at the Music-hall, Leeds, for the benefit of the widows and orphans fund.——The Leeds Club was formed in December. The building is conveniently situated in Albion-place, Albion-street, and contains handsome coffee, smoking, and dining rooms, drawing or reading, and writing rooms, spacious billiard room, excellent kitchens, lavatory, bed rooms, bath rooms, &c., and is beautifully furnished and decorated, but still it has an air of domestic comfort, whilst it may almost vie with any club house out of London. This institution is found to be very convenient to the gentry of the neighbourhood, who have occasion to visit Leeds, and is also much frequented by the merchants, and professional gentlemen of the town. Mr. R. L. Ford is secretary.

1847. Jan. 1st. C. G. Maclea, Esq., resigned the office of mayor of Leeds, on account of ill health, and George Goodman, Esq. was elected his successor.——12th. A very beautiful marble bust (by Macdonald, of Rome) of the late John Marshall, Esq. was presented to the Leeds Philosophical and Literary Society, by his sons.——29th. Great sensation was caused at Wakefield by the suicide of two lovers, named George Hampson, aged 25, and Susan Morton, aged 21. Nothing has since transpired calculated to explain the motive for the commission of such a rash act. They were interred in the same grave, in the burial ground of the parish church of that place in the presence of at least 3,000 persons.

March 5th. About three o'clock in the afternoon of Friday, the 5th of March, an explosion of fire damp took place in Ardsley Main colliery, occupied by Messrs. Firth, Barber, and Co., known as the Oaks colliery, situate about a mile from Barnsley. Ninety men and boys were in the pit at the time, seventy-three of whom met with almost instant death. The explosion shook the whole neighbourhood like an earthquake, and the force of it was such, that stones were thrown from the shaft, which is 300 yards deep, into the air 40 or 50 yards above the head gearing. The unfortunate occurrence was caused by the use of a naked light, in a part of the mine where inflammable gas was known to exist.

1847.—MARCH.

9th. On the 23th of August, 1846, was passed the County Court act, 9th and 10th Vic., cap. 95, and by an order in council of the 9th of March, 1847, County Courts were established throughout the kingdom with a jurisdiction up to £20, which was subsequently by (13th and 14th Vic., cap. 61) extended to £50. These courts supplanted the old courts of request, and laid down one uniform mode of proceeding for the recovery of small debts throughout England. The statute 9th and 10th Vic., cap. 95, has been amended by the 12th and 13th Vic., cap. 101; the 13th and 14th Vic., cap. 61; the 15th and 16th Vic., cap. 54; and the 19th and 20th Vic., cap. 108. By the latter of these acts the expense of maintaining the county courts, which was before borne wholly by the suitors, is, with the exception of the salaries of the ministerial officers to be defrayed by an annual vote. The cost of proceeding in the court has been very materially reduced.——13th. A very painful shock was given to commercial credit in Leeds, by the discovery that three brothers named Robert, Frederick, and William Glover, woollen cloth scribblers and dyers, of many years standing in the town, had absconded after committing forgeries to the amount of at least £10,000. The parties absconded it is supposed to America, and although a reward of £500 was offered for their apprehension, they were never taken.

15th. Died, aged 71, at Torquay, Devon, Christopher Beckett, Esq., of Meanwood Park, near Leeds. He was the second son of the first Sir John Beckett, Bart., of Gledhow-hall, near Leeds, and of Somerly Park, in Lincolnshire, by Mary, daughter of Dr. Chr. Wilson, Lord Bishop of Bristol. Mr. Beckett was for many years a magistrate of the West-Riding, and a leading trustee and active administrator of the public charities of the town. He was senior partner in the banking house of Messrs. Beckett, and Co. A very costly and beautiful structure was subsequently erected in the Leeds parish church, as a memorial by the surviving brothers and sisters of the deceased. The tomb, which is entirely of Caen stone is an elaborate specimen of the style which prevailed in the early part of the fifteenth century. The design consists of a large central sepulchre arch, flanked on each side by massive angle buttresses, and surmounted by a parapet, from which spring pinnacles, supported by projecting corbel angels holding scrolls. On the top of the tomb the following inscription is emblazoned in mediæval letters :—

“In memory of Christopher Beckett, of Meanwood, Esq., a Justice of the Peace, and Deputy Lieutenant of the West-Riding; twice



1847.—MARCH.

Mayor of Leeds; born 26th January, 1777; he died at Torquay, 15th March, 1847, and was interred in the adjacent vault. He was an active magistrate, a faithful dispenser of public trusts, and a liberal supporter of the calls of Religion and the claims of Charity. Fear God, and keep his Commandments."

The size of the tomb across the base is 11 feet 3 inches, and to the top of the angels on the angle buttresses, 12 feet 10 inches. The design and detail drawings of the tomb are by Mr. Dobson, the architect, and the whole was executed by Mr. R. Mawer, both of Leeds. The stained glass window is by Mr. Wailes, of Newcastle.

31st. The members of the late "Leeds Exchange," dined together at the White Horse, Boar-lane, on the occasion of the presentation of a testimonial, consisting of a most beautiful and chaste tea and coffee service, to John Lapage, Esq., their late chairman.——During this month large and important meetings were held at Leeds and other places, both for and against the government scheme of education—of making grants to schoolmasters, pupil teachers, &c. The plan was ably supported by the Rev. Dr. Hook, the vicar, (who published a pamphlet recommending a system of national education, in which religion should be altogether excluded from the school teaching, and the schools should be supported by local rates, and superintended by committees chosen by the justices of the peace) J. G. Marshall, John Gott, Hamer Stansfeld, the Rev. Chas. Wicksteed, the Rev. William Sinclair, J. D. Luccock, Esq., &c. The measure was strongly and ably opposed by the late Edward Baines, Edward Baines, jun., (who published a series of letters in the Mercury addressed to Lord John Russell, on the subject of "State Education.") Francis Carbutt, Thomas Plint, the Rev. Dr. Hamilton, (author of the prize essay on "The Institutes of Popular Education,") the Rev. John Ely, and others.

April 5th. A very rapid and destructive fire took place on the evening of this day at the timber yard of Mr. John Townsend, Airedale saw mills, in Aire-street, Leeds, doing several thousand pounds worth of damage.

Guardians of the poor for Leeds, elected April 5th, 1847 :

EAST WARD, W. B. Hainsworth, George Lumb.—KIRKGATE, contested, John Braithwaite, 171; Robert Taylor, 176; defeated, John Brown, 115.—MILL-HILL, Thomas Wilson, John Kighley Clapham, and Thomas Dawkins.—NORTH, Richard Stead, James Ward.—NORTH-EAST, John Metcalfe, John Morfitt.—NORTH-



1847.—APRIL:

WRSR, Joseph Hall, John Patrick. —SOUTH, Samuel Croft, Thos. Walsh. —WRSR, Benjamin Burrell, Peter Law Atkinson, Thomas Newsam. John Metcalfe elected chairman.

7th. Two lovers, named Joseph Bolland and Maria Wilson, the former 19 and the latter 17 years of age, both residing in Lincoln-field-place, Newtown, Leeds, tied their bodies together with handkerchiefs, jumped into the river Aire, and were drowned. The reason given for this singular case of double suicide, is that the lovers were out of employment. A short time before the melancholy event, they had been paying a series of farewell visits to their friends, and were in good spirits, alleging that they were going on tramp to Harrogate. —26th. The Leeds magistrates held a meeting at the Court-house, to consider the state of the vagrant Irish poor in Leeds. It was explained by the chairman of the poor law guardians, that in three months 1,896 vagrants had been relieved, while in a corresponding quarter the year before, the number only amounted to 278. The guardians had to provide additional premises to relieve the pressure on the House of Recovery for the large number of sick, principally Irish, who were afflicted with typhus fever.

26th. The ceremony of laying the foundation stone of the *new* Unitarian chapel, Mill-hill, Leeds, which is built on the sight of the old edifice, took place this day, in the presence of the congregation and a large number of spectators. The stone was laid by Hamer Stansfeld, Esq., chairman of the building committee, to whom a silver trowel was presented for that purpose, inscribed with his name. In a cavity formed in the centre of the stone, a bottle was deposited, containing a parchment with the following inscription:—"The corner stone of this chapel, erected as a public place of religious worship by Protestant dissenters from the Church of England, was laid on the 26th day of April, 1847, being the tenth year of the reign of Queen Victoria, by Hamer Stansfeld, Esq., chairman of the building committee, on the site of the old chapel, at Mill-hill, which was erected from the indulgence of King Charles II., in the year 1673. Minister, the Rev. Charles Wicksteed, B.A.; treasurer, Arthur Lupton; chapelwardens, James Kitson, John W. Read." The bottle also contained a copy of the local newspapers, the Rev. Chas. Wicksteed's five concluding sermons in the old chapel, entitled "The Memory of the Just," the various coins of the realm, &c., &c.. The building was opened for public worship on the 22nd of December, 1848,

1847.—APRIL.

and during its erection the services were held in the Arian chapel, Call-lane. It is more commodious than the old building. The style of architecture is the pointed, or perpendicular, of the 15th century, and is enriched with a variety of ornament. The interior is not less striking. The cost of the chapel was upwards of £7,000, which was defrayed by the congregation. The Rev. Thomas Hincks, B.A., is minister. A beautiful school has been recently erected, which agrees admirably in style with the chapel. The *old* chapel was the first dissenting meeting house in the north of England erected after the general indulgence, and was built in 1672-3. It was incrustated over with grey plaister, and shaded with trees, which gave it a retired appearance. The Revs. Richard Todd and Cornelius Todd, were the first ministers; the former was a friend of Dr. Manton, and his funeral sermon was preached by Matthew Henry. Mr. Todd is said to have drawn up the Confession of Faith. After doctrinal changes in 1767, the celebrated Dr. Priestley became minister.

May 3rd. The ten hours' factory act passed the House of Commons by 151 against 88; but in 1850, the hours of labour were altered to ten hours and a half per day.

12th. A triple murder, unequalled in England's "calendar of crime" for atrocity and brutality, was committed this day at a place called Water Royd, near Mirfield, in the West-Riding. The victims of the appalling tragedy were James Wraith, an old man of 77; Ann, his second wife, aged 70; and Caroline Ellis, a promising young woman of 20, just on the point of marriage, who lived with the old couple as servant. The murders were committed at mid-day by Patrick Reid, a travelling Irish tinker. The poor girl had her skull laid open in several places; her brains scattered on the floor; her jaw smashed, and her teeth driven out; her arm was also broken, and to crown all, her throat was cut. Ann Wraith had also her skull fractured in a many places, her right eye was literally smashed out; the very socket itself being destroyed. Her arm was also broken and her throat cut. James Wraith had his skull broken in several places; the lower jaw was severely fractured, the right arm dislocated, and his throat cut from ear to ear, all the arteries were divided, and his head nearly cut off. His trousers pockets were turned inside out, and a bloody razor, which was shut, laid on his breast. On the floor of the room under the window lay a kitchen poker, which told its own tale as to the instrument with which the horrible

1847.—MAY.

tragedy had been committed. It was bent with the force of the blows that had been struck with it. James Wraith had in his earlier years been steward to Samuel Brooks, Esq., J.P. in that neighbourhood, but of late years he had retired, "living on his means," in a plain substantial stone dwelling, near both the Methodist and Baptist chapels, consisting of two parlours and a kitchen on the ground floor, and three bed rooms on the second story. Michael McCabe, a hawker, and Patrick Reid were taken in custody on suspicion of being concerned in the crime, having been seen in the immediate vicinity about the time of the murders. They were committed to York on a charge of wilful murder. McCabe was admitted Queen's evidence, and Reid alone was brought to trial on the 19th of July. The house consisted of two parlours fronting towards the fields, and a kitchen behind. It stood at a distance of about fifty yards from Water-royd-lane, and there was no house within one hundred yards of it. Behind the house is a yard, in which is a well, and in this well was found a soldering iron, which was sworn to have been in the possession of Reid the day previous to the murder, in addition to which he was seen near Wraith's house about the time of the murder, and had marks of blood on his clothes. The trial was concluded on the 20th. The summing up of the Judge, (Justice Wightman,) occupied two hours and a half. The jury retired at ten minutes past six o'clock, and returned after an absence of two hours and forty minutes to ask a question of his lordship, which was handed in in writing. The Judge handed the paper back again and requested one of the jury to read it. It was to this effect "The jury wish to know if the prisoner be acquitted of the murder of James Wraith, can he afterwards be put on his trial for the murder of the two women, should further evidence be found." *The Judge* : That is not a question gentlemen, which you can take into your consideration, nor any right to entertain. You have only one duty to perform, to consider the case in evidence. *A Juror* :—Some of the jury do not know whether we are trying the case as to the murder of James Wraith, only, or all three of the family. *The Judge* :—Then you have greatly misunderstood the case gentlemen. You are to decide only as to the murder of James Wraith. *A Juror* :—Then we are agreed upon our verdict. *The Judge* :—Well, but you had better retire, and re-consider your verdict after what has taken place. The jury retired, and on returning into court after an absence of five minutes pronounced a verdict

1847.—MAY.

of *Not Guilty*. Reid was still detained on a charge of murdering the females, which trial was postponed till the following assizes.

On the 20th of December, Reid and McCabe were tried at York, for the wilful murder of Caroline Ellis, the servant girl, found guilty, and sentenced to death. A very important piece of circumstantial evidence was adduced on the trial, which strongly tended to criminate Reid, namely, the discovery of Wraith's watch, and other property of the murdered family, in a house in Ireland, occupied by Reid's mother, where she had gone to reside. After sentence of death, Patrick Reid made an extraordinary confession, as follows :—"That on the 12th of May, he (Reid) went to Mr. Wraith's house about twenty-five minutes to one o'clock ; that he conversed with the servant girl, Caroline Ellis, about five minutes, that he then took out of his basket the soldering iron he had that day borrowed of Kilty, and struck Caroline Ellis a severe blow on the back of the head. She shrieked out, and staggered to the back door, when he struck her again and felled her to the ground, and Mr. Wraith coming that moment from the cellar into the passage which connects the kitchen with the two front parlours, with a silver pint, containing beer, in his hand, he (Reid) struck him a violent blow on the head with the iron, in doing which, the iron flew from the handle, and Mr. Wraith staggered into the parlour. Reid then returned and got the kitchen poker, and ran to the parlour and met Mrs. Wraith running out of the front door. He then struck her two or three blows on the head, and felled her to the ground. He went into the parlour, and Mr. Wraith was then laid bleeding on the floor insensible. He rifled his pockets, took two keys out, and opened the drawers with them. He heard a knock at the kitchen door, which he thought was Caroline Ellis getting up. He went to the kitchen, found her perfectly still, and returned. He then got some money out of the drawers, took a watch from Mr. Wraith, and a ring from Mrs. Wraith's finger, and heard another knock at the door, and thereupon went to the kitchen door, and slightly opened it, when he saw the other prisoner, McCabe, who enquired if they wanted anything in his line. He (Reid) replied, "No, sir," and thinking McCabe was a stranger, and would not recognise him, he shut and bolted the door. He then returned, and ransacked the drawers, and found in them a razor case containing two razors. He took one, and cut the throats of all the three parties, then washed his hands and

1847.—MAY.

wiped them on the towel. He then quitted the house, locked the kitchen door, and threw the soldering iron and the key into the well near the back door, and then made towards his own home."

On the 8th of January following, Patrick Reid was executed at York in the presence of not less than 30,000 people of both sexes. Just before the fatal bolt was drawn, he said to the officers around him, "Well, gentlemen, I wish to say that I alone am the guilty person; that McCabe is entirely innocent, that no human being in the world had anything to do with it but myself." In consequence of Reid's confession McCabe was respited, and on his case being submitted to the whole of the judges, he was ordered to be transported for the term of his natural life.

May. The flax reellers, numbering about 1,500 females, at the mills of Wilkinson and Co., Hunslet; Holdsworth and Co., Hunslet; and Boyle, Gill, and Co., Meadow-lane, Leeds, were out on the strike, owing to an attempt to reduce their wages.——At this time, out of 40,000 persons employed in the cotton trade in Manchester, 7,000 were out of work; 14,000 were working three days a week; 19,000 were working from four to five days. In Rochdale, 21 mills were closed.

15th. Died, aged 71, Daniel O'Connell, the celebrated Irish repealer.——17th. On the morning of this day an explosion of fire-damp, attended with the loss of nine lives, occurred at Beeston Main colliery, near Leeds, belonging to Messrs. Harding and Co. The explosion was caused by the sudden intrusion of foul air from some old workings into where the miners were at work. The killed were Aaron Bell, of New Hall, Beeston, aged 22; George Bell, of the same place, aged 15; Charles Duxberry, Beeston, aged 14; William Westerman, Lee-fair-road, aged 12; John Orrell, Churwell, aged 28; and Joseph Longstaff, Beeston, aged 56; John Hall, of Beeston, aged 10; John Jessop, Beeston, aged 32; and William Richardson, of Churwell, was taken out alive, but died in the course of the day.——25th. Mr. William Jackson, organist, Masham, composed an oratorio, entitled "The Deliverance of Israël from Babylon." Being the first oratorio ever composed by a Yorkshireman, the various musical societies in the county introduced it to the musical world on the 25th of May, by a performance at the Music-hall, Leeds, under the patronage of the worshipful the mayor, the proceeds of which were given to the Leeds Dispensary and the House of Recovery. The principal vocalists

1847.—MAY.

were Mrs. Sunderland, Mrs. L. Peace, Mr. Novello, Mr. Barker, York, Mr. Lambert, Durham, &c.——The annual meeting of the Yorkshire Union of Mechanics' Institutes, was held in the Council-hall, Sheffield. Earl Fitzwilliam took the chair, supported by Mr. James Montgomery, Mr. Edward Baines, jun., Alderman Dunn, and others.

31st. Died, at the York Hotel, Brighton, after a short illness, aged 72, Sir John Beckett. He was the eldest son of Sir John Beckett, Bart., banker of Leeds, by the daughter of Dr. Wilson, bishop of Bristol. He was born at Leeds, on the 17th of May, 1775. He commenced his education at the Leeds grammar school. He entered Trinity college, Cambridge, at the age of sixteen, where he was fifth wrangler in 1795. At the age of twenty-one he was called to the bar by the Inner Temple, of which he became a bencher, and he practised for some time on the northern circuit. On the 18th of February, 1806, he took office as Under-Secretary of State for the Home Department, under the Whig ministry of Fox and Grenville. In 1817, he was appointed a privy councillor, and the same year he married Lady Anne Lowther, third surviving daughter of the Earl of Lonsdale, who survived him. Sir John first entered the House of Commons in 1820, as member for Cockermouth; and he was elected for Haslemere in 1826, 1830, and 1831. In 1828, he was appointed Judge Advocate, and held the office till the retirement of the Wellington administration in 1830. During the short ministry of Sir Robert Peel in 1834-5, he again held the same office. In 1834, he contested Leeds, in opposition to Mr. Baines, and was defeated. At the general election of 1835, Sir John was returned for Leeds, at the head of the poll. At the election, on the accession of Queen Victoria, in 1837, he again contested Leeds, and was defeated. Sir John Beckett possessed a fine personal appearance, great moral worth, and excellent business talents. He died without issue, and his brother, Thomas, succeeded to his title. He, like his brother, Christopher, died without will, and thus the landed estates, estimated at the annual value of £10,000, (saving the widow's dower), devolved upon his brother, Sir Thomas.

June. *Typhus Fever* prevailed in Leeds to an alarming extent, especially in the eastern part of the town. On the 18th of this month it was reported that in the Rose and Crown-yard, Union-street, twenty-eight persons had the fever in seven houses, three of which were without beds; in Wellington-yard ten in seven houses, and in



1847.—JUNE.

Goulden's-buildings four in three houses were attacked. In one house in Brighton-court, in which there was not a single bed, twelve had the fever, and in a house in Brook-street six were attacked under similar distressing circumstances. In three houses in Brussels-street twenty persons had the fever, and in a single house in Baptist-court no less than eleven had it. The House of Recovery and the fever hospital were completely full. A temporary wood shed for a hospital was erected in Accommodation-road, Richmond-hill, and Cleveland-street mill was likewise occupied (temporary) for the same purpose, under the board of guardians. Dr. Hook and the Rev. G. Hills, (now bishop of Colombia,) were daily visitors at these establishments. Two of the town's surgeons were attacked. In the whole township, there were at least 400 persons suffering from the disease. The number of interments in the burial grounds of the Leeds parish church during the half year ended 30th of June was more than 900, being an increase of more than 200 on the corresponding period in the previous year. The epidemic did not confine itself exclusively to the poor. Several individuals caught the contagion, whilst ministering to the necessities of the distressed Irish. On the 27th of May, the Rev. Henry Walmsley, senior Catholic priest at St. Ann's, Leeds, and Catholic dean of the District of York, died of typhus fever, and on the following day died the Rev. E. Metcalf, another Catholic priest. The latter gentleman had only come to Leeds within three weeks. On the 30th of June, died, the Rev. Joseph Curr, aged 55, who succeeded the Rev. Henry Walmsley, as head priest at St. Ann's. On the 6th of July, died, aged 33, the Rev. James Coppinger, Catholic priest. The Rev. Richard Wilson also fell a victim to the disease.

The bodies of the five priests were interred in St. Patrick's chapel yard, York-road, adjacent to each other, and near the place is a beautiful stone cross erected to their memory by the laity, seven feet high. In the chapel is a monumental slab, which bears the following inscription :—

"Of your charity pray for the souls of Reverends Henry Walmsley, Richard Wilson, Edward Metcalf, Joseph Curr, and James Coppinger, who fell victims to fever in the discharge of their sacred duties, in 1847." *"Requiescant in pace."*

On the 7th of June, Mr. Joseph Andrew, of Leeds, well-known as being connected with the temperance society, was cut off by the disease. On the 10th of July, Francis Sharpe, Esq., surgeon, of North-street, Leeds, died, aged 40, of fever, caught whilst acting as town's surgeon. On the fol-



1847—JUNE.

lowing day, the 11th, the Rev. William Stanley Monck, B.A., one of the curates of the Leeds parish church, died, aged 26, under an attack of the prevailing fever, supposed to have been caught whilst visiting a number of sufferers from famine and disease in Brighton-court, Lower Cross-street, and Brook-street. He was the youngest son of the late Colonel Monck, of Cowley Park, Berks., formerly M.P. for Reading, and was ordained deacon by the Bishop of Ripon, on Sunday, the 9th of March. A beautiful memorial window is erected within the altar rails, on the north-east side of the church, which bears the following inscription :

“William Stanley Monck, B A , assistant curate of the parish of Leeds, born March 27th, 1822, died July 11th, 1847.”

June 4th. Samuel Linley, a joiner, employed at Parkgate, near Rotherham, committed, in open day, an atrocious murder, by cutting the throat of a Mrs. Jagger, whom he met on the high road.

10th. John Bright, Esq., M.P., was married to Miss Leatham, at the Friends' meeting house, George-street, Wakefield. A numerous and respectable company attended to witness the ceremony, The wedding party arrived at half-past ten. The whole company sat in perfect silence for about three quarters of an hour, when Mr. Bright arose, and taking the right hand of Miss Leatham, pronounced in a low but distinct voice, the following words :—“Friends, I take my friend, Margaret Elizabeth Leatham, to be my wife, and promise by divine assistance to be unto her a loving and faithful husband until it shall please God to part us by death.” While still holding hands, Miss Leatham pronounced the same words, substituting John Bright for her own name, in a low but tremulous voice. Then a prayer was offered up, the certificate or declaration signed, and the ceremony ended.——A case, *Reg v. Lancaster*, was tried in the Queen's Bench, before Lord Denman, as to whether the right of appointing the gaoler to the new Leeds borough gaol was in the justices for the borough, the mayor, the recorder, or the town council. Judgment was delivered on the 26th of June, in favour of the justices.

July 7th. A storm of thunder and lightning occurred this day about noon, which smashed no less than 150 panes of glass on the premises of Mr. Barrett, at the Ship Inn, Harewood Bridge, and the lightning split up several fine trees surrounding his house. Several fine trees in Harewood Park were also shivered by the lightning.——24th. Died,

1847.—JULY.

aged 65, Richard Fountayne Wilson, Esq., of Melton Hall, near Doncaster. He was born in the year 1782, and was the eldest son and heir of Richard Wilson, Esq., who was the eldest son of Christopher, lord bishop of Bristol, by Anne, daughter of Dr. Edmund Gibson, bishop of London. The mother of the deceased was Elizabeth, third daughter of the Very Rev. Dr. Fountayne, dean of York, to whom his father, Richard Wilson, was married in 1781. In 1807, Mr. Wilson was the high-sheriff of Yorkshire. On the 21st of June, 1826, he was returned as representative for Yorkshire, along with Lord Milton, John Marshall, Esq., and the Hon. William Duncombe, without opposition, Richard Bethell, the fifth candidate having withdrawn. He continued in Parliament until the general election of 1830, when he retired. In politics, Mr. Wilson was a Conservative. He was a great benefactor to various public charities of the county. Leeds is indebted to him for the valuable piece of ground in front of the Infirmary, and also for the extinction of small tithes. Of the National Society of Education he was a warm supporter, and one of his latest gifts was a donation of £1,000. He was colonel of the first west York militia, which he resigned a short time before his death. He was also a magistrate and deputy-lieutenant of the West Riding of York. His remains were interred at Melton church.

26th. Died, aged 64, Jonathan Akroyd, Esq., of Woodside, near Halifax. The deceased dropped down dead whilst addressing a public meeting (as chairman) of the electors of Halifax for the return of Sir Charles Wood. He was long and universally celebrated as a distinguished manufacturer and merchant of that town. To his skill, enterprise, and unwearied energy its local manufactures are largely indebted. Posterity will regard him as the "father of the worsted trade," and while honour, integrity, and benevolence are revered, his memory will be respected. The funeral of the deceased was attended by about 3,000 persons, and the shops and other places of business in the town were closed during the day. A beautiful white marble monument, executed by J. Gott, Esq., of Rome, has recently been placed in the All Souls cemetery, Haley-hill. A finely engraved brass plate let into the wall near the head of the statue, bears the following inscription :—

"In memory of Jonathan Akroyd, of Woodside, Halifax. He was born near Brookhouse, Ovenden, on the 17th of Nov., 1782, and there passed the spring of life in laying the foundation of his future career.

1847.—JULY.

The obstacles which beset his early path aroused in him a dauntless energy and a rare steadiness of purpose. In 1818, he removed from Brookhouse to Halifax, and in the summer of his years, achieved a high position as a worsted manufacturer, distinguished, not less by his strict honour and integrity, than by his uniform kindness and care towards his workpeople. In the autumn of life, his character matured itself, and he became ripe for the harvest. Walking humbly before God, and given to secret meditation and prayer, yet he busied himself in works of usefulness and beneficence, more especially did he devote himself to the work of education. Besides providing most efficiently for the daily instruction of the factory children employed by him, he personally took an active part in the Woodside Sunday school. He died, suddenly, on the 26th of July, 1847, whilst earnestly pleading before a public assembly the cause of national education. This monument was erected by his sons, Edward and Henry, as an offering of filial reverence and affection."

23rd. Parliament was dissolved, and a general election ensued.

29th. LEEDS ELECTION.—One division of the liberal party in Leeds brought out Joseph Sturge, Esq., of Birmingham, on the ground of opposition to state endowments. Another section of the same party called forward James Garth Marshall, Esq., on the opposite ground, and coalesced with the Conservative candidate, William Beckett, Esq. The nomination took place on the 28th of July. John Gott, Esq., proposed for re-election Mr. Beckett, which was seconded by Joseph Robert Atkinson, Esq. Edward Baines, Esq., proposed, and Peter Fairbairn, Esq., seconded, the nomination of Mr. Sturge. Thomas William Tottie, Esq., proposed, and Hamer Stansfeld, Esq., seconded the nomination of Mr. Marshall. Mr. Sturge had the largest show of hands, Mr. Beckett the next, and a poll was demanded on behalf of Mr. Marshall, which took place on the following day. The result was :—

*Mr. William Beckett* ... .. (T.) 2,529

*Mr. James Garth Marshall* ... (L.) 2,172

*Mr. Joseph Sturge* ... .. (L.) 1,978

Plumpers :—Beckett, 1,991; Marshall, 84; Sturge, 1,617.

The Leeds Borough Gaol was completed in July, at a cost of £43,000. It is pleasantly situated near Armley, on the south side of the picturesque valley of the Aire, about a mile and a half west of the town. It is a noble castellated stone structure, presenting a massive pile of masonry, and is visible from many distant points. Messrs. Perkin and Backhouse, of Leeds, were the

1847.—JULY.

architects. Previous to its erection, the prisoners convicted at the Borough Courts were sent to Wakefield. The discipline of this gaol is that of the "Silent System," and the employment of the prisoners is reproductive labour. Each inmate has a separate cell, (of which there are about 334), where he follows the occupation to which he may have been accustomed. Those who have no defined calling are employed in picking oakum, or making matting, the proceeds of which are applied in aid of the establishment. In addition to the persons committed from the sessions, convicts are also confined here, at the cost of the government, preparatory to their departure for the penal settlements. The arrangements are on the most improved system of prison discipline. Capt. C. F. Webster Wedderburne is governor; the Rev. H. Tuckwell, M.A., chaplain; and W. Price, Esq., surgeon.

August 7th. The nomination for the West-Riding of Yorkshire took place this day at Wakefield. William Milner, Esq., of Nun Appleton, proposed, and Alderman Dunn, of Sheffield, seconded the nomination of *Lord Morpeth*. The Hon. Edwin Lascelles, proposed, and John Rand, Esq. of Bradford, seconded the nomination of *Beckett Denison, Esq.* George Goodman, Esq., mayor of Leeds, proposed, and William Rand, Esq., of Bradford, seconded the nomination of *Richard Cobden, Esq.* After Lord Morpeth, Mr. Denison, and John Bright (on behalf of Mr. Cobden, who was on the continent) had addressed the electors, a show of hands was taken, when the High-sheriff declared it to be in favour of Lord Morpeth and Mr. Cobden. After a short pause the Hon. Edward Lascelles stated that Mr. Denison should *not* demand a poll, therefore Lord Morpeth, and Mr. Cobden were declared to be duly elected.

At Huddersfield, W. R. C. Stansfield, Esq. was elected in opposition to Mr. Cheetham, the votes being Stansfield 524, Cheetham 487. At Bradford, William Busfield, Esq., and Thomas Perrant Thompson, Esq., were returned, the result of the poll being :—Mr. Busfield, 937; Mr. Thompson, 927; Mr. Henry Wickham Wickham, 860; Mr. Gawthorne Hardy, 812.

At Halifax, Capt. Edwards, and Sir Charles Wood were returned, the result of the poll being :—Capain Edwards, 509; Sir Charles Wood, 506; Mr. Edward Miall, 348; Mr. Ernest Jones, 279.

At Wakefield, George Sanders, Esq., was elected, the poll being :—Mr. G. Sanders, 392; Mr. W. Alexander, 258.

1847.—Aug.

10th. The *first* election of common councilmen under the provisions of the charter of incorporation at Bradford, took place this day. Robert Milligan, Esq. of Acacia-house was the first mayor of Bradford.—11th. The Leeds town council passed a resolution “That it is expedient to exempt from toll, all foot passengers who shall pass over the bridge called Wellington-bridge.” In order that the creditors on the tolls might receive their usual rate of interest, the clerk to the council was empowered to offer a sum not exceeding £881 per annum for the tolls on horses, beasts, and carriages, for a period not exceeding three years. The bridge was made free for foot passengers on and after the 1st of September, this year.—20th. The workmen employed on the construction of the Aire viaduct, of the Leeds and Thirsk railway, discovered a strong spring of water near Kirkstall road, close to the river, at the depth only of twenty-two feet, said to be much similar to the spa at Holbeck.

23rd. The anniversary meeting of the Leeds Temperance society, at the Music-hall, Albion-street, was rendered of considerable interest by the presence of a North American Indian chief, Maun-Gwu-Daus, and his son in their native costume, consisting of buffalo robes, shirts, leggings, moccasins, &c., ornamented with porcupine quills, and wild horse hair. Their caps were decorated with eagle’s feathers, and the chief wore a necklace made from the claws of the grisly bear.—27th. Hunslet, near Leeds, was made into a separate vicarage, on the recommendation of the ecclesiastical commissioners of England, by which all that part of the parish of Leeds, comprised within the boundaries or limits of the township of Hunslet was forthwith constituted and annexed to the church or chapel of St. Mary, Hunslet, subject to the condition that the nave, or body of the church or chapel should be entirely free, with the exception of two pews intended to be made free. The chapelries of Allerton and Headingley, in the parish of Leeds, were also made into a separate district, for spiritual purposes to be named “the *district of Meanwood.*”

Sept. 1st. The first stone of the Sheffield Athenæum, and Mechanics’ Institution was laid by the Earl of Arundel. The same evening a soiree was held in the Music-hall, in celebration of the event. The Earl of Arundel presided. Lord Morpeth, Colonel Thompson, M.P., Edward Baines, junr. Esq., and others addressed the meeting.

5th. A person named Peter Steel, was on the plan to preach at Great Horton chapel, near Bradford, on Sunday

1847.—SEPT.

the 5th of Sept; but he having become distasteful to Thomas Myers, the secretary of the Horton circuit, another preacher was appointed to his place. Steel however determined to preach, and attended the chapel for that purpose. On his arrival he ascended the pulpit, gave out a hymn, offered up a prayer &c., and was proceeding with his sermon when Myers told him in a loud voice to "drop it." He persisted in preaching, upon which Myers ordered the organist to play a tune, and singing commenced. Steel finding it impossible to proceed with his sermon, left the chapel and preached outside.

9th, 10th, and 11th. A great cricket match between eleven of all England, *v.* sixteen of Yorkshire, took place at the Victoria cricket ground, Leeds. The former won by eight wickets.—16th. A frightful accident took place on the Lancashire and Yorkshire railway, near the Sowerby-bridge station, by which Mr. Gillard, connected with the telegraph, Wakefield, and R. Weston, Esq., surveyor-general of the customs, London, were killed, and several other persons were severely injured. The accident was caused by a broken rail throwing the last carriage off the line.—A monetary panic took place during this month. The commercial failures in London and other places, were of a most serious nature. The mercantile house of Gower, Nephew, and Co. of which one of the partners was a director of the Bank of England, stopped payment (Sept. 11th.) with liabilities amounting to £800,000. Two days afterwards the failure of Messrs. R. Sanderson, and Co., bill brokers took place, they ranked second among that class in London. The immediate cause of their suspension was the amount of bills held by them, belonging to several extensive corn merchants, who had failed. On the 18th, Messrs. Lesley, Alexander, and Co., and Reid, Irving, and Co., suspended, the latter with liabilities amounting to £1,500,000. The head of this firm was one of the senior directors of the Bank of England. On the 21st, the well known firm of Burt, Watson, and Burt of Manchester and Leeds, suspended, with liabilities of about £200,000. This firm involved that of Watson, Brothers, and Co., Liverpool. The above failures were speedily succeeded by the stoppage of the Royal Bank of Liverpool, the Union Bank at Newcastle, and that of Messrs. Scholes, Tetlow, and Co., one of the oldest banks in Manchester, &c., &c. Trade was very bad both in Yorkshire and Lancashire.

Oct. The Leeds Co-operative Flour and Provision Society,



1847.—Ocr.

Marshall-street, Holbeck, was formed this month, for the purpose of supplying its members with unadulterated flour, at the lowest possible price. It was started with about 1,500 members, at 21s. each; it has now 3,400 members, who have never paid more than 21s. each; yet, by accumulation of profits, the shares are now valued at 50s. each, and the members have received in bonuses at least £3 per share. The society has a freehold mill and machinery in Marshall-street, Holbeck. The society is governed by a board of twenty directors, ten chosen half-yearly by ballot. The goods are sold through the agency of fifty shops, situated in various localities, extending over a diameter of fifteen miles, and the business turned over varies from £1,500 to £1,800 per week; the average sale is about 400 bags, or 8,000 stones of flour weekly, of 14lbs. to the stone, all the transactions being for ready money.

1st. An event, memorable in the annals of Bradford, took place in the Exchange-rooms of that town, namely, the first official entertainment of Robt. Milligan, Esq., the first mayor of the borough. The preparations for the event were on a scale of princely liberality and extraordinary splendour. The invitations included not only the *elite* of the town, but were extended to many leading persons in the county. The entertainment was modestly styled the "Mayor's dinner," but it was pre-eminently deserving the name of a *banquet*.

7th. The greatest solar eclipse visible over Great Britain for 83 years, occurred this morning, commencing at a quarter past six o'clock, and ending at four minutes past eight.——9th. Died, aged 54, the Rev. John Ely, for fourteen years minister of East-parade chapel, Leeds, previous to which he had been seventeen years minister of the Independent chapel, Rochdale. He was born at Rochester, in Kent, on the 20th of August, 1793. His father, Mr Daniel Ely, an architect and builder, died when he was young, his aged mother survived him. A friend, who knew him long, and well, has said of him that :—"He shone alike as the able and energetic minister, the faithful, affectionate, wise, and indefatigable pastor, the meek yet manly Christian, the true patriot, the enlightened philanthropist, the finished gentleman, the invaluable friend, the charming companion, the tender son, husband, and father." He was interred at the Woodhouse cemetery, where a neat column has been erected, bearing this inscription :—

"In memory of John Ely, pastor of the Independent church, East-parade chapel, Leeds. Born August 20th, 1793; died, October 9th, 1847.



1847—Nov

This monument is erected as a tribute of grateful affection, by the members of his Bible classes. Feed my lambs."

### LEEDS MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS, 1st NOVEMBER, 1847.

Those in brackets were elected.

MILL-HILL, [Thomas Newsome, C, 315; Edwin Eddison, L, 314;] John Sangster, C, 312; E. Birchall, jun, L, 309.—WEST, [Joseph Richardson, L, 658; George Robson, L, 650;] John Patrick, C, 353; J. K. Clapham, C, 319.—NORTH WEST, [David Newton, R, 361;] John Daniel, C, 271.—NORTH, [Thomas Ellis, R, 335;] James Warl, C, 40.—NORTH EAST, [Thomas Brumfitt, L, 486;] Samuel Lawson, C, 471.—EAST, [William Heywood, C, 516;] E. Morgan, R, 447.—KIRKGATE, [Richard Stead, C, 231;] J. Jackson, jun, L, 219.—SOUTH, [H. Gresham, L, 101;] John Jackson, R, 69.—HUNSLÉT, [William West.]—HOLBECK, [William Brook, R, 675; J. Gaunt, L, 630;] John Tempest, C, 450.—BRAMLEY, [Richard Wilson, L; Wm. Tattersall, C.]—HEADINGLEY, [Jas. Martin, C.]  
Nov. 9. Francis Carbutt, Esq, elected mayor.

Nov. 5th. Died, aged 90, the Hon. Edward Vernon Harcourt, D.C.L., Archbishop of York. He was the son of the first Lord Vernon, by his third wife, Martha, daughter of the Hon. Simon Harcourt, and was born Oct. 10th, 1757. He married in 1784 the third daughter of the first Marquis of Stafford, (she died in 1832,) and assumed the name of Harcourt on inheriting the estates of that family. In 1785 he was appointed canon of Christ church; in 1791 bishop of Carlisle, and was translated to the see of York in January, 1808. The deceased was very highly respected. As a religious teacher his precepts were clear and forcible, and his life was highly consistent with them. He held the see of York forty years, a period longer than any of his predecessors. Thomas Musgrave, D.D., Bishop of Hereford, was installed his successor on the 13th of January, 1848.

6th. The foundation stone of the church of St. John the Evangelist, Holbeck, was laid by the Lord Bishop of Ripon, and the edifice was completed in 1850. It was built and endowed by Messrs. Marshall, with £150 a year, and £500 in the three-per-cents as a perpetual repair fund. It is situated in Sweet-street, West, near their extensive mills. The exterior is a beautiful and chaste specimen of the early English style, massive and dignified. The chief beauties, however, are to be found in the interior. Instead of having three high open roofs, as is usual in this style, it is constructed after the plan of the Temple Church, having vaultings of stone of equal height throughout, probably the

1847.—Nov.

only instance to be found in a modern church. The vaulting is supported by slender clustered columns of Aubigney stone, excepting between the chancel and its side chapel, which consists of five detached shafts of polished Derbyshire marble, and is peculiarly elegant in its effect. All the windows of the nave are filled with stained glass, and when the chancel is completed, the effect will be of the most gorgeous and costly character. The seats are all open ; of oak ; and the pulpit of unique design. It was built from designs by the distinguished ecclesiastical architect, G. G. Scott, Esq., of London. The benefice is a vicarage, valued at £250, in the patronage of J. G. and H. C. Marshall, Esqrs. The Rev. J. P. Ward is vicar. The choral service is beautifully performed here.—The burial grounds attached to the parish church, Leeds, and St. Mary's, within the township of Hunslet being so filled with corpses, were ordered to be closed from further interments after the 30th of November.

11th. Samuel Vickers and his wife, of High-street, Leeds, were convicted before the Leeds magistrates, of adulterating flour with plaster of Paris, for which they suffered imprisonment.

Dec. The prevailing epidemic, *influenza*, which existed at this time to a great extent in London and other parts of the country, as well as upon the continent of Europe, found its way into a great many families in Leeds, who suffered from its debilitating influence.—1st. A grand soiree of the Leeds Mechanics' Institution, took place at the Music-hall. Charles Dickens, Esq., presided, and addresses were delivered by Geo. Stephenson, Esq., the celebrated engineer, Professor Johnstone, of Durham University, Dr. Hodgson, of Manchester, and others.—13th. Alexander Blenkinsop, manufacturing chemist, Meadow-lane, Leeds, was committed to York Castle, for forgery, and subsequently transported for ten years.—A select committee of the House of Commons sat at this time, to enquire into the commercial distress of the country.—The Leeds Stock Exchange, Albion-street, Leeds, was erected this year by the share-brokers association, for their own accommodation, at a cost of £12,500. It is a large edifice, built of stone, and presents a very striking architectural feature. At the time the building was erected, it was intended that the rooms on the ground floor should be used as a club house, but the plan was not carried out ; and that part of the building was afterwards let to Messrs. Denby and Co., and is now called the "Exchange Rooms," having an entrance in Albion-street.

1847.—DRC.

The upper rooms are used by the Sharebrokers' Association, as a Stock Exchange for dealing in shares and securities of every description. The business transacted is considerable. J. H. Ridsdale, Esq., is the chairman, and Mr. Charles Wellbeloved the secretary.

The Leeds School of Practical Art, which is a branch of the Mechanics' Institute and Literary Society, and also connected with the Department of Science and Art, South Kensington, was established in the year 1847, for the purpose of instructing young men preparing for, or engaged in, art industry or manufactures. The school is supported by subscriptions, donations, and fees from the pupils, and is yearly examined by the inspector from the department of Science and Art, London, who awards them prizes, and reports upon the efficiency of the successful pupils. Mr. Charles Ryan, a certificated art teacher, is head master, assisted by competent teachers from the Science and Art department. The school is governed by a sub-committee selected from the committee of the Mechanics' Institution.

1848. A small rudely formed vessel now in the Museum at York, was found at Boston, on the Wharfe, about three miles from Tadcaster, (the Roman station, Calcaria), in the year 1848, in digging for the foundations of a house. It contained about two hundred Roman silver coins, many of them belonging to the Consular series much worn; the rest to the series of Imperial denarii; the latest being coins of Hadrian, in good preservation; during whose reign it is probable the treasure was concealed.

Jan. Mr. Ralph Waldo Emerson, the American poet and essayist, delivered a course of lectures at the Leeds Mechanics' Institute.——19th. Michael Stokes, a native of Dublin, and a soldier in the Leeds horse barracks, Chapel-town-road, out of jealousy, shot dead a female, named Margaret Garratt. He was tried at York, on the 20th of March, for wilful murder, found guilty, and sentenced to death, and was executed on the 13th of May.

The distress of the labouring population at Bradford was very great. About 1,500 families were recipients from the relief fund.

Feb. 3. Died, aged 71, Joseph Taylor, Esq., senior partner in the firm of Messrs. Taylor, Wordsworth and Co., machine makers, Leeds. To the causes of religion, education, and charities, he was a munificent benefactor. His donation of £1,000, in 1845, towards the liquidation of the debt on East-parade chapel, originated a movement which

1847. — FEB.

led to the discharge of all the debts on the Independent chapels in Leeds, and in several other parts of Yorkshire. He left legacies to several charities, amongst which may be mentioned £200 to the Leeds Town Mission, £250 to the Leeds Infirmary, £250 to the Leeds House of Recovery, and £100 to the Leeds Public Dispensary.——25th. The telegraph announced to the British people this day, that a fearful revolution had burst out in Paris on the 22nd, in consequence of the government attempting to prevent the holding of a Reform banquet. The people erected barricades in the principal streets of Paris; the national guards and the troops refused to act against the populace, and in four and twenty hours Louis Phillip was dethroned. The palace of the Tuileries was stormed and sacked; the mob burst into the Chamber of Deputies, whence they expelled the members, and proclaimed a republic. The monarch, who a few days before had seemed as firmly seated on his throne as any in Europe, was a fugitive, with his queen, flying in disguise, without money, and without clothes. He at length reached England, in an old pea-coat, borrowed from the master of a steamboat. The French revolution was speedily followed by revolutions in Prussia, Austria, and Italy, and indeed, every country in Europe was more or less shaken by the event. In Ireland, Smith O'Brien, John Mitchell, and others advocated physical force.

March. Wakefield and Halifax received their charters of incorporation.——11th. About noon on Saturday, the viaduct which was in course of erection over the river Nidd, at Knaresbro', for the use of the East and West Yorkshire Junction Railway Company, fell with a tremendous crash, in consequence of some imperfection in the middle pier, which suddenly gave way beneath the burden of the stupendous arches. The calamity was unattended with any personal injury or loss of life. The ruins dammed up the river, and caused a serious inundation in the immediate vicinity. The viaduct was about 100 yards in length, and its height somewhat more than 90 feet above the level of the river. The loss sustained was estimated at about £10,000. A large quantity of fish was killed, owing to the water becoming impregnated with the lime attached to the falling material.——16th. At the Yorkshire assizes, George Calvert and James Mellor, were charged with the wilful murder of Wm. Wood, at Fairweather, near Bradford, on the 8th of December, 1847, found guilty, sentenced to death, and hanged.——18th. About a quarter to ten o'clock on

1848.—MARCH

Saturday night, the 18th of March, a serious and fatal accident occurred at the circus of Mr. W. Darby, alias Pablo Fanque, King Charles'-croft, Leeds. It was the benefit night of Mr. W. F. Wallett, the clown, and the circus, consisting of a temporary wooden structure, was crowded in every part. The pit, which contained more than 600 persons, fell with a tremendous crash, precipitating a great number of people into the gallery adjoining the front of the pit, but on a lower level. A many others fell into the lobby, and some out at one side, for the weight of the falling timber, and the people together, had burst out a portion of the side of the circus nearest to Land's-lane. Mrs. Darby and Mrs. Wallett were both in the lobby at the time of the occurrence. They were both knocked down by the falling timber; two heavy planks fell upon the back part of the head and neck of Mrs. Darby, and killed her on the spot. Mrs. Wallett, besides a many other persons received bruises and contusions, but the above was the only fatal accident. The unfortunate woman was interred at the Woodhouse cemetery, where a monument records the melancholy event as follows :—

"Sacred to the memory of Susannah Darby, aged 47 years, the beloved wife of William Darby, equestrian manager, professionally known as Pablo Fanque. Her death was occasioned by the falling of a portion of the circus, erected in King Charles'-croft, on Saturday, the 18th of March, 1848.

To God's decree we mortals all must bend,  
 'Thy will be done,'—our best and only friend,  
 My soul by thy commands is borne away  
 To realms of light and never ending day.  
 Torn from this world, and from my husband dear,  
 Pity my fate, and drop a silent tear.

Her bereaved and afflicted husband has caused this monument to be erected."

23rd. Mr. Richard Hodgson Pickard, late sexton of the Leeds parish church, was buried in St. Peter's new burial ground, at the bottom of Kirkgate. The funeral drew together an unusual number of people, because of its taking place notwithstanding the order in council of the 30th of November last, closing the burial ground, and was persisted in, in order to test the question, whether the order in council applied to parties who had private graves, and which were not filled up. Dr. Hook officiated.

April. A Roman vault was discovered about four feet from the surface of the ground near to Mr. Close's, within the

1848.—APRIL:

city walls, York. Several large blocks of hammer-dressed stones, composed the cover, as well as the sides and ends of the vault. The whole formed an area of eight feet in length by three feet wide. The vault had contained a coffin of cedar wood, which was greatly decayed. It had no lid, and the course of interment appears to have been, that the body, wrapped in cloth, had been thus deposited in the coffin, which was six feet long by nineteen inches wide. After the coffin had been placed in the vault, the whole had been cased in concrete, poured into the vault and coffin in a liquid state, and as it hardened formed a perfect shield. On removing this concrete, a skull and several bones in a very perfect state were discovered. The lower jaw had a complete set of beautifully formed teeth, and the upper jaw also had some fine teeth. On the plaster was an excellent cast of the body, some of which is preserved entire, and develops the form of the shoulders most accurately. The texture of the cloth is also shown on the line. The remains were presented to the Yorkshire Philosophical Society.

The small pox was very prevalent in Leeds.

On Sunday, the 2nd of April, Leeds, Huddersfield, Bradford, Mirfield, Wakefield, and other places were visited by one of the most awful thunder storms that had occurred for a many years. A servant of Mrs. Clark, of Headingley, was struck by the lightning, and nearly killed. The lightning killed a Mrs. Ellis, of Stanley. About half-way up Almondbury Bank, at Huddersfield, a cottage, in the course of erection, was struck, in which were several boys, three of whom were killed on the spot. Their names were, Henry and William Armitage, and William Winterbottom. The streets of Huddersfield were completely flooded. Immense damage was done to property. Miss Roebuck, of Wood-nook, Honley, was struck dead, and also a dog that was laid at her feet. Sarah Ellis, of East-moor, Wakefield, and Mr. William Baker, of Mirfield, were killed by the lightning. The storm appears to have been general both in Yorkshire and Lancashire, and the casualties were more or less numerous at every place that came under its influence.

Poor Law Guardians elected 5th of April. 1848 :—

Those in brackets were elected.

EAST. [William Burrow Hainsworth, 675; George Lumb, 675;] Joseph Watson, 617; John Wainman, 615.—KIRKGATE, [Robert Taylor, 235; Robt. Issott, 237;] John Brown, 210; Thomas Hartley, 209.—MILL-HILL, [Thos. Wilson, 442; John Kighley Clapham, 451; Thomas Dawkins, 456;] Edwin Heycock, 318; Joseph Pearson,



1848.—APRIL.

281.—NORTH, [Richard Stead, 491; James Ward, 464;] John Wales, 417; Wm. Brock, 408.—NORTH-EAST, [John Metcalfe, 566; John Morfitt, 530;] John Trumble, 402; John Barrett, 471.—NORTH-WEST, [Wm. Fieldhouse, 654; J. Howard, 641;] John Patrick, 437; Joseph Hall, 423.—SOUTH, [Thomas Walsh, John Kirk]—WEST, [Peter Law Atkinson, 905; Thomas Newsam, 918; Benjamin Burrell, 908;] James Shires, 651; Wm. Avens, 713; Geo. Tatham, 802; Joseph Walker, 809. John Metcalfe was elected chairman.

Great distress prevailed in the woollen and worsted districts of the West Riding, especially at Bradford and the surrounding villages. In Leeds, trade was almost at a stand still.

10th. This being the day fixed by Fergus O'Connor, for the presentation to the House of Commons of the monster chartist petition, immense excitement was created throughout England, especially in the metropolis, which was strongly guarded by troops, and protected by the police and special constables; the Bank of England was defended by Sappers and Miners. At this time the present Emperor Napoleon was a special constable in London, and lodged in a garret there. On presenting the petition to the House, Mr. O'Conner stated that it was signed by 5,700,000 persons, and that the petitioners prayed for annual parliaments, universal suffrage, vote by ballot, equal electoral districts, no property qualification, and payment of members. The petition was read to the House, and then removed.—Great chartist meetings were held in most of the large towns of the kingdom. A large meeting was held on Skircoat-moor, near Halifax, on the 21st, and on Woodhouse-moor, Leeds, on the 24th. A public meeting convened by the mayor, was held at Bradford on the 25th, in the Temperance-hall, to take into consideration the state of the country, and the necessity of making representation co-extensive with taxation.

May 1st. A desperate civil conflict broke out at Limerick, between the two sections of repealers, namely, the partizans of Mr. O'Connell and those of Smith O'Brien, Meagher, and Mitchell. Great excitement had for some time prevailed in Ireland. The government instituted prosecutions against O'Brien, Mitchell, and Meagher. On the 26th of May, Mitchell was found guilty, the other two were acquitted. After the conviction of Mitchell, great excitement prevailed in London and Manchester, in both places the military were called out.—9th. The Morley tunnel, on the Leeds and Dewsbury Railway was completed. It is 3,370 yards, or nearly two miles long.—At Leeds, on



1848.—MAY.

Sunday and Monday, the 28th and 29th of May, a large number of persons, mostly lads, assembled on Woodhouse-moor, armed with sticks, and went through various evolutions. The mayor issued a proclamation, cautioning parties against assembling, and calling attention to an act, entitled, "An act to prevent the training of persons to the use of arms, and to the practice of military evolutions, and exercise." A serious riot occurred at Bingley, and several of the leaders were committed to York-castle. On the 29th of May, the authorities at Bradford determined to put a stop to the drilling and parading the streets, which had for some time prevailed. The consequence was that a collision took place between the populace and the civil and military forces. At the corner of Adelaide-street, the police attempted to make the large crowd of persons assembled at this point disperse. The police drew their cutlasses, the special constables their staves, and they were met by the mob with bludgeons, stones, and brick-bats. In the thickest of the fight the dragoons galloped to the spot and quelled the disturbance, but not before a many persons had been seriously wounded. Similar disturbances occurred in the neighbourhood of White Abbey, Bradford, on the 3rd of June, when the military were again called out. Several persons were committed to York, and suffered imprisonment. In London, Mr. Ernest Jones, and other chartist leaders, were arrested on a charge of using seditious language, subsequently found guilty, and sentenced to be imprisoned. A monster chartist meeting was held on Toftshaw-moor, on the 12th of June, but all passed off peaceably, though the authorities were armed ready to suppress any disturbance that might have taken place.

June 7th. The workmen employed on the Leeds and Dewsbury railway, in the ground near Spring Hill Gardens, between Wellington-street and the suspension bridge, nearly opposite the end of Queen-street, Leeds, dug up a large quantity of human bones, consisting of skulls and thigh bones, supposed to have been buried there during the civil wars. Large cannon balls have been found near the same place; one recently, which is in the Philosophical-hall, weighs 28½lbs.

Louis Napoleon was admitted a member of the French National Assembly. He was at the time in London.

10th. Died, aged 85, Benjamin Goodman, Esq., of Leeds. He was a zealous friend of many local charities, and the father of the late Sir George Goodman. ——— 12th. A cricket match was played on the Victoria ground, Woodhouse, Leeds,

1848.—JUNE.

between the Leeds cricket club, and the Bradford Brunswick club, which was won by the latter with four wickets to fall.

13th. The annual meeting of the Yorkshire Union of Mechanics' Institutes was held in the city of Ripon. The Dean of Ripon presided.——15th. A public meeting of the inhabitants of Leeds was held in the yard of the mixed cloth-hall, convened and presided over by the mayor, to promote parliamentary reform.——25th. A four days civil war took place in the streets of Paris, more than *thirty thousand* men are said to have been killed and wounded, including among the killed four generals, four members of the National assembly, the Archbishop of Paris, and a crowd of officers, as well as multitudes of citizens, acting as national guards. General Cavaignac was elected president of council with the executive authority.

July 12th. The tenth annual meeting of the Royal Agricultural Society of England was held at York, and in point of magnitude and importance the proceedings were unequalled by those of any previous year. Prince Albert, the Duke of Cambridge and others honoured the city by their presence.——18th. Died of erysipelas, aged 54, the Rev. Richard Winter Hamilton, LL.D., and D.D., minister of Belgrave Independent chapel, Leeds. He was a native of London, where he was born on the 6th of July, 1794. His father was the Rev. Frederick Hamilton, Independent minister of Brighton, and his mother, Martha, the daughter of the Rev. Richard Winter, B.D., pastor of the Independent church, New-court, Carey-street, London. He was late in speaking plain and learning to read, and as a boy had unbounded sprits, and a lively imagination; was a mimic and got plentifully into scrapes, but was nobly and fearlessly truthful; when a child, in frocks, riding from Brighton over the South Downs, on coming at once in sight of a richly wooded and extensive country, he stood silent a few minutes, and then, with glowing countenance exclaimed "Mamma, this must be heaven!" He was educated partly at a school in the Isle of Wight, and partly at the Protestant Dissenters grammar school, Mill-hill, near London. In August, 1810, he became a student at Hoxton college, where he made great progress in his studies. On the 15th of March, 1815, he was ordained the minister of Albion chapel, Leeds, then in the occupation of the Independents. This body removed to a more commodious and handsome structure, Belgrave chapel, which was opened on the 6th of January, 1836, where Mr. Hamilton continued his ministry

1848.—JULY.

till the close of his life. He married on the 21st of May, 1816, Rachel, the daughter of Michael Thackray, Esq., of Leeds, by whom he had two daughters, and a son. The birth of the latter was fatal to the mother. On the 6th of December 1836, he married Harriet, daughter of John Robson, Esq., of Sutton-hall, who survived him. His eloquence, high attainments, and wit, placed him in a commanding position amongst his fellow-men. His published works are numerous, showing great intellectual power, research, and a great exuberance of language. Milton's description of the English people has not been inaptly applied to him—"Not slow and dull, but of a quick, ingenious, and piercing spirit; acute to invent, subtile and sinewy to discourse, not beneath the reach of any point the highest that human capacity can soar to." In private life he was deservedly esteemed for the purity of his character, and for the warmth and sincerity of his social affections. He was interred at Woodhouse cemetery, and his remains were followed to their last resting place by hundreds of the inhabitants, and many Independent ministers and laity from other towns at a distance. The Rev. Dr. Raffles, of Liverpool, impressively read the funeral service. A monument to the memory of the deceased was erected in Woodhouse cemetery in March, 1851, from a design prepared by Mr. J. Dobson, architect, and executed in cleansed stone, from Park-Spring quarries, by Mr. George Hogg, of Leeds. It stands above twenty-three feet in height, and covers a space of about seven feet square at the base. It is a chaste and beautiful classical structure, composed of a base or pedestal, supporting four Grecian Doric columns, six feet nine inches high, surmounted by an appropriate architrave, frieze and cornice, &c. The architrave is ornamented with guttæ, or drops, the triglyphs usually placed over them in the frieze, are omitted, and sculptured representations of the cross, a book, and olive branches entwined and tied by ribbons, substituted instead. The four angles are ornamented with honeysuckles and hanging wreaths. On the top of the pedestal in the centre of the space between the columns, is placed a large and massive urn, partly covered by drapery. The base or pedestal is seven feet square, and seven feet six inches in height, composed of plinth, base dado, and cornice, with projections at the angles panelled on the face, and an inverted torch cut in them, symbolical of death. The dado on the four sides of the pedestal has projecting tables, for inscriptions, on one of which is the following :—

1848.—JULY.

"In memory of Richard Winter Hamilton, LL D., D.D., 34 years pastor of the Independent church assembling in Albion and Belgrave chapels, Leeds. He died July 18th, 1848, aged 54 years. His rare talents, extensive learning, and fervid eloquence, were consecrated to the glory of God and the highest interest of man. As a minister and pastor, he was earnest, affectionate, and faithful; as a divine, zealous for sound theology and evangelical truth. Honoured and beloved for his genuine piety and high principle, the warmth and openness of his heart, his ardent patriotism and love of freedom. This monument, erected by his townsmen, testifies that they mourned his death and cherish his memory."

21st. In consequence of a threatened rebellion in Ireland, the House of Commons passed a bill to suspend the Habeas Corpus act in Ireland until the 1st of March, 1849. The effect of the act would be to detain in custody, without bail, prisoners charged with high treason, or treasonable practices. The rebellion soon after broke out. Smith O'Brien and other leaders were arrested on charges of high treason, subsequently found guilty, and transported for life.

At this time, the deaths from cholera in St. Petersburg were 1,500 daily. The disease was steadily moving westward, and the English government were already taking precautionary measures in case of its appearance in England.

31st. The Leeds and Dewsbury Railway was this day formally opened by the directors. The line was opened to the public on the 18th of September.

Aug. 1st. Died, aged 42, after a protracted and lingering illness, borne with exemplary patience and entire resignation to the divine will, the Rev. Joseph Ware, A.M., for nine years the much esteemed and laborious incumbent of St. Stephen's, Kirkstall.—The *Doncaster Gazette* stated that "On the 1st of August, 1848, about eleven o'clock in the forenoon, in the centre of a mown field, about a mile from Methley, a gush of water burst out to the height of twelve inches. Immediately afterwards it was followed by fire and vapour to the height of about three feet." The extraordinary circumstance attracted the notice of the engine driver of a train to Methley, who stopped the train, and the phenomena was witnessed by the passengers.

Died, about midnight, on the 3rd of August, aged 74 years and six months, EDWARD BAINES, ESQ., of Leeds, senior proprietor of the Leeds Mercury, and formerly one of the members of the borough. He was the second son of Richard and Jane Baines, of Preston in Lancashire, and was born on the 5th of February, 1774, at Walton-le-dale,

1848.—Aug.

near that place. His father was first an excise officer, then a grocer, then a cotton spinner and manufacturer, and during the latter years of his life a land agent, and coal merchant. Edward was apprenticed when upwards of sixteen years of age to Mr. Thomas Walker, printer, of Preston. On the 1st of June, 1793, Mr. Walker started a liberal newspaper called the *Preston Review*, but after a two years existence it was discontinued. The business in the printing office was so much diminished, that young Baines, although he had two years still to serve, received from his master his indentures. He then left Preston for Leeds in search of work as a printer. He walked the whole distance with a bundle on his arm, and very little money in his pocket. On his arrival at Leeds, he proceeded to the printing office of Messrs. Binns and Brown, the publishers of the *Leeds Mercury*, and enquired if they had room for an apprentice to finish his time. He was taken into the office, and by his punctuality, industry, and good manners, soon won the esteem and confidence of his employers. His apprenticeship terminated in the month of September, 1797, and on the following day he commenced business as a printer in the Rose and Crown Yard, Briggate, in partnership with a Mr. Fenwick, the firm being "Baines and Fenwick." In the early part of the following year the partnership was dissolved. On the 2nd of July, 1798, he married Charlotte, the daughter of Mr. Matthew Talbot, of Leeds. She was a most affectionate, pious, and God fearing woman, and exercised no little influence on the future career of her husband and family. She survived her husband two years and a half, and died Feb. 26th, 1851, aged 75 years. On his marriage he took a house and printing office in Dickinson's-court, Briggate, where business soon poured in upon him, for he was known to be a man of industrious, frugal, temperate, and punctual habits. In 1801, by the assistance of his friends who lent him £1000, (which he repaid with interest,) he purchased the copyright of the *Leeds Mercury*, the good-will of the printing business, and the printing materials for the sum of £1,552. He also took a lease for seven years of the printing office in Mercury-yard, now Heaton's-court, Briggate. The first number of the *Mercury* published by him appeared on the 7th of March, 1801, and from that time it was considered to be the organ of the whig and dissenting interest in Leeds. One evening in November, 1805, Mr. Baines' dwelling situate on the south side of Park-square, was partially destroyed by fire, by which he suffered the loss of his furniture. At the begin-

1848.—Aug.

ning of 1807 he removed his business to premises in the middle of Briggate, just above Duncan-street end, where it was continued until after his death. The Mercury was originally established in May, 1718. It was then of small dimensions, printed on twelve pages of small quarto size and large type, containing altogether about 5,000 words, price 1½d. After the paper came into the hands of Mr. Baines it gradually increased in circulation, and was from time to time enlarged in size. In 1801 the weekly circulation was about 800 copies ; in 1804 it was 1,500 ; in 1806, 1,950 ; in 1829, 5,200. In 1845 the paper was further enlarged, and contained nine times more matter than when it first came into Mr. Baines' hands. In 1847 the weekly circulation was 9,200. The Mercury is said to have been the first paper in Yorkshire that sent a reporter to the York assizes. In 1814 Mr. Baines commenced the publication in monthly parts, of a work entitled "The History of the wars of the French Revolution." It extended to two quarto volumes. The history was afterwards expanded into a History of the Reign of George III., by the addition of two other volumes. This work is said to have been very successful, the sale being about 150,000 copies. In 1818 he had a family of nine children. At this time he built for himself a house in King-street, where he continued to reside until his death. Mr. Baines had altogether eleven children, two died in infancy, and nine grew up to maturity and married. The parents lived to see upwards of forty grand-children. In 1821 he purchased an estate at Chat Moss, situate a few miles beyond Manchester, on the line of the Liverpool and Manchester railway, and "for more than a quarter of a century visited it with lively interest, and felt more than the pleasure of the man who had made two blades of grass to grow, where only one had grown before." In 1827 he took his son Edward (the present member for Leeds) into partnership, though he had long assisted in the management of the paper. At the beginning of 1831 he commenced the publication of his "History of the county Palatine, and Duchy of Lancaster." Mr. Edward Baines, junr., composed for the work the History of the Cotton Manufacture. From the year 1807 when the memorable contest of Lascelles and Milton for the West-Riding took place, (Baines espousing the case of Lord Milton,) he showed himself a most active politician, and took a lead in all the public movements for national and local reform, and rendered especial service to his party in the agitation for the Reform act of 1832. He also rendered great assistance in the form-



1848.—AUG.

ation of Mechanics' Institutes, Infant Schools, Saving's Banks, &c. On the 14th of February, 1834, he had the distinguished honour of being elected member of parliament for Leeds in opposition to Sir John Beckett, in the place of Mr. Macaulay, who had accepted a seat in the council of the Governor-general of India. On the 7th of January, 1835, he was again returned for Leeds, along with Sir John Beckett. On the 27th of July, 1837, he was returned along with Sir William Molesworth, and in opposition to Sir John Beckett. He continued to represent Leeds laboriously, and with great ability and impartiality until May, 1841, when he retired on account of his declining health. From that time he devoted what time his health would allow to various public duties, especially those of a magistrate, he having been placed on the commission of peace for the borough, as well as for the West-Riding. In 1847 he had the high satisfaction of seeing his eldest son, Mr. M. T. Baines returned as member for Hull. This son was afterwards returned three times for Leeds, and his second son Edward is now (1860) one of the members for Leeds. In the spring of 1848, Mr. Baines experienced a sensible decline of his health. He died as before mentioned, exhibiting in his last moments the beautiful picture of a good man prepared to meet his end. His illness and death excited a high degree of sympathy in the town, throughout Yorkshire, and indeed in many other parts of the kingdom. His funeral was a public one, and was attended by thousands of his fellow-men of every grade, and without distinction of party, who all lamented him as a good man and a public benefactor. He was interred at the Woodhouse cemetery, very near the place where the Rev. John Ely, and the Rev. Dr. Hamilton were interred. The estimation in which Mr. Baines was held was not only shown by the testimonial presented to him during his life, and by the honours of his public funeral; but some time after his death, a full-length portrait by Waller was bought by public subscription, and presented to the Leeds Mechanics' Institution and Literary Society, of whose hall it forms a principal ornament, and where it constantly reminds the young of one of the best models they can follow in the pursuit of honour and happiness. Still later, a large subscription was raised by very numerous contributors (of all parties) in Leeds and the neighbouring towns, with several of his old friends in both Houses of Parliament, to erect a statue in his honour in some public part of the town of Leeds. The statue was executed with



1848.—Aug.

great ability by Behnes, and is an excellent likeness. The size is colossal, being eight feet in height ; and it is made of a faultless block of Carrara marble. It was committed to the care of the Town Council of Leeds, who placed it in the Town Hall, opened in the year 1858. It bears the following inscription :—

“To commemorate the public services and private virtues of Edward Baines, who faithfully, ably, and zealously represented the borough of Leeds in three successive Parliaments. As a man, a citizen, and a patriot, he was distinguished by his integrity and perseverance, his benevolence and public spirit, his independence and consistency. This monument is erected by voluntary subscription, that posterity may know and emulate a character loved and honoured by his contemporaries. Born 5th February, 1774. Died 3rd August, 1848.”

“In combination with strong natural powers of understanding, strengthened and matured by practical exercise in the real business of life and amid stirring events, Mr. Baines had great industry and perseverance, as well as patience and resolution, and with these he possessed pleasing manners and address. In person, he was of a firm well-built frame, rather above the average stature, his features were regular, his expression of countenance frank and agreeable ; and he retained his personal comeliness as well as his vivacity and suavity of manners to the last, showing but slightly the outward characteristics of his advanced years, and evidencing by this token of a ‘green old age,’ the equability of a well poised mind, and the felicity of temperament which graced the declining years of his long and well-spent life.”

[For a fuller account of this remarkable man, see his life, by his son Edward, recently republished in a cheap form, from which this sketch has been drawn.]

12th. Died, aged 67, George Stephenson, Esq., the celebrated engineer, at his seat, at Tapton, Derbyshire. He was born at Wylam, a colliery village, near Newcastle-on-Tyne, on the 9th of June, 1781. When only six years of age, he was sent down the pit as a “trapper.” He afterwards went to Callerton pit, to drive the “gin.” Before he was twenty he was appointed to the situation of engineman, at 10s. a week. At the age of twenty-one, he resolved to marry, and fixed his affections upon a Miss Hindmarsh, the daughter of a respectable farmer ; being only a poor man, he was not considered a suitable match, and his proposals were declined. As the mistress would not have him, he made proposals to the servant, was accepted, and married.

1848.—Aug.

She proved a good wife. The late Robert Stephenson, one of the most eminent engineers of modern times, and one of the best and most liberal of men, was the result of this union. She died soon after Robert's birth, and in a few years after George again offered himself to Miss Hindmarsh, and this time was accepted. This second marriage was a prosperous one, and the pair lived long and happily together. He left Callerton to go to Wallbottle, afterwards to Willington, and then to Killingworth, in each place acting as brakesman and attending the engine while drawing up the coals from the pit. At the age of twenty-three he began to learn to read, &c. In working night-shifts, he had plenty of spare time, of which he made good use. He invented a safety lamp, turned his ready hand to anything, cleaned clocks and watches, cut clothes out for pitmens wives, made shoes, &c. He made a sun-dial, which he fixed over the door of his cottage at Killingworth. In attending to the engine, he studied thoroughly its mechanism, and made several improvements in its working. He began to be called in to do the work of an engineer; putting up steam engines under ground, laying down trams or waggon ways, &c. Years passed by, and George Stephenson became a prosperous man. He had long directed his attention to the locomotives, one of which he built in 1814, for the Killingworth colliery. In this engine he adopted his great improvement in double cylinders. The engine succeeded well, and by the aid of his friend, Sir Thomas Liddle, (afterwards Lord Ravensworth,) he took out a patent for it. The next year he erected another engine, with further improvements. In 1822, he constructed the Stockton and Darlington Railway, which was the first for carrying passengers. He commenced a locomotive workshop in Newcastle, which afterwards expanded into a gigantic establishment. His engine, the *Rocket*, carried off the £500 prize on the opening of the Liverpool and Manchester Railway, of which he was appointed engineer. In connexion with his son, he constructed the London and Birmingham, the Midland, the York and North Midland, the Newcastle and Berwick, and Newcastle and Darlington, and many other lines, both in England and other parts of Europe. He was carried on by the full tide of railway prosperity, and accumulated a large fortune. He said of himself at a public dinner at Newcastle, shortly before his death:—"I may say, without being deemed egotistical, that I have mixed with a greater variety of society than perhaps any man living. I have dined in mines, for

1848.—Aug.

I was once a miner, and I have dined with kings and queens, and with all grades of the nobility, and have seen enough to inspire me with the hope that my exertions have not been without their beneficial result—that my labour has not been in vain.” In private life he was a man of great worth and liberality. He possessed a most indomitable energy and perseverance. The secret of his success in life, was his careful improvement of time. The labours of Mr. Stephenson, who has been aptly styled the “father of the railway system,” have tended greatly to multiply and spread abroad the conveniences of life, opening up new fields of industry, bringing nations nearer to each other, and thus promoting the great ends of civilization.

14th. During chartist disturbances at Ashton, a policeman, named James Bright, was killed, and several other persons wounded.——Died, aged 41, Mr. David Britain, organist of Rothwell church. Although blind, he had for a many years officiated as postman and letter carrier for Rothwell.

25th. An emigrant ship, called the *Ocean Monarch*, was destroyed by fire near Liverpool. She had on board at the time 360 passengers, 178 of whom were drowned or burnt to death. The whole would have perished but for three or four vessels homeward and outward bound coming to their rescue. A female passenger, named Mary Ann Taylor, of Crab-lane, Armley, near Leeds, (who was joining her husband in America,) in order to escape from the intolerable flames, bound her two children on her back and plunged with them into the sea; she held by the rigging until the waves had destroyed the lives for which she risked her own, and was at last only snatched from death herself by an Irishman loosing the rope which bound her treasures to her body, and so setting her free.

On the 4th, 5th, and 6th of September, a grand cricket match was played at Bradford, between eleven of All England v. Bradford and district, when the latter proved victorious, with fifteen wickets to fall.

Sept. 11th. Mr. Joseph Barker, formerly of Wortley, near Leeds, a chartist lecturer, and editor and publisher of the *People*, was apprehended at Bolton, but was subsequently released from custody.——On the 18th, 19th, and 20th, a cricket match was played at the Victoria Grounds, Leeds, between eleven of All England and eighteen of the Leeds Clarence club. The latter won the game, with fourteen wickets to fall.

Oct. 7th. Died, at his seat, Castle Howard, aged 75, the

1848.—Oct.

Right Hon. Earl of Carlisle, K.G. He was the sixth earl, and was born on the 17th of September, 1773. He married 21st March, 1801, the eldest daughter of the fifth Duke of Devonshire, by whom he had twelve children, ten of whom with their mother survived him. He was educated at Eton and at Christ Church, Oxford, where he took a high degree. He, like his father, embarked early in political life, and subsequently held several important offices under government.

**HUNSLET TRAGEDY.**—On Sunday evening, Oct. 8th, the inhabitants of Hunslet, near Leeds, were thrown into a state of great excitement and consternation, by the discovery that a horrible murder had been committed on a female, aged sixteen years, named Esther Inman, residing with her step-father, Thomas Watson, in Varley's-yard, Hunslet, by her sweetheart, Thomas Malkin, aged seventeen, an operative glass manufacturer, but for twelve months past, employed as wood turner at Holdsworth's flax mill, residing in Merryfold, Hunslet-moor-end, nearly opposite the Sun Inn. The unfortunate girl had from some cause or other declined Malkin's company, and on the night alluded to, being instigated by motives of jealousy or revenge, he went to the garden gate leading to Watson's house, and observing a girl, named Mary Ann Smith, coming out, he requested her to return and ask Esther Inman to come out for a minute or two as he wished to speak to her. Unhappily the poor girl complied with his request, and while conversing together he plunged a dagger twice into her breast, causing her death instantly. The dagger was made of a piece of cast-steel, six inches in length and half an inch broad, fixed on a turned boxwood handle. The blade was of one thickness throughout but filed to a sharp edge on each side and at the point. Malkin absconded, but was soon apprehended, and was committed to York on a charge of wilful murder. He was tried before Mr. Baron Platt, on the 21st of December, and pleaded *Not Guilty*, in a firm tone of voice. Mr. Hall, Mr. Hill, and Mr. Wheelhouse appeared for the prosecution; Mr. Overend and Mr. Johnstone defended the prisoner. After a patient trial he was found *Guilty*, but was recommended to mercy on account of his extreme youth. He was then asked if he had anything to say why sentence of death should not be passed upon him. When he replied, "My lord judge, and gentlemen of the jury, I can truly say that I am perfectly innocent of this crime. It seems to be rather difficult for me to have nothing found upon me—no blood,

1848.—Oct.

nor anything of this kind. I can't really, I can't talk for myself, but I am perfectly innocent of the crime. I never had thoughts of doing what I call 'my lover, Esther Inman,' any injury, never in my life, I always intended and strived to do the best I could for her, and I never thought any ill of her. I cannot say anything more, my lord judge." Sentence of death was then passed upon the prisoner, without any hope of mercy. On the following day he made a confession of his guilt to the Rev. Thomas Sutton, the prison chaplain, to the effect that he was the cause of the death of his lover, and that he had contemplated the murder some time previously. He declared that he was actuated by a feeling which had he seen any other man talking with her, would have induced him to murder them both, and then to take his own life. On the 6th of January, 1849, he expiated his awful crime on the gallows.

16th. The Leeds Moral and Industrial Training School was formally opened this day. The first stone was laid on the 12th of October, 1846, by J. Metcalfe, Esq., chairman of the Leeds Board of Guardians in the presence of a large number of spectators. It is pleasantly situated at Burmantofts, occupying an eligible and elevated site of six acres in extent, including the play-ground and garden. It is built of brick, with stone facings, at a cost of £14,000. The principal front of the school buildings is 276 feet in extent, and the depth from front to rear, 178 feet. The style of architecture is the Elizabethan. The front presents a commanding appearance, the eight projecting portions being surrounded by octangular stone turrets with moulded canopies; the wings have bay windows from the ground to the roof, over which are high pointed gables, and in the centre front there are three large oriel windows. The interior is arranged for the classification of the inmates, the northern side being appropriated to the girls, and the south to the boys. Through the centre is a large pile of buildings, separating the boys and girls' playground, the western portion of which is appropriated to the infant's school room, day room, and dormitories; the other portions being used as kitchens, dining rooms, chapel, &c. In the rear buildings, there are fever wards for both sexes. Between the rear and front buildings, there are covered colonnades, to enable the children to take out-door exercise in wet weather. In the extreme wings of the front buildings are the spacious day rooms, measuring 50 feet by 25 feet, and over these are school rooms of like dimensions. The centre of

1848.—OCT.

the front buildings comprises the board room, and the head master's apartments, the teachers' dining room, entrance hall, and principal staircase; and on the right and left of the centre of the ground floor, are the store room, ward-robcs, and bath rooms, &c., with a spacious corridor, extending the whole length of the building at the back thereof. On the first and second floor there are eight dormitories 50 feet by 25 each, and 14 feet high, adjoining to which are apartments for the teachers. The chapel and dining hall are each 45 feet by 30 feet; the former has a handsome open timbered roof stained in imitation of oak; the latter is about 14 feet in height. The admission to the school is vested absolutely in the Board of Guardians, and the inmates generally consist of orphans or deserted children; but there are also a few who are children of deserving resident poor. They are received at an early age, and are immediately placed under the superintendence of the schoolmaster or schoolmistress to be taught industrial work. The building has accommodation for about 400 children and youths, and has often from 230 to 300 inmates. The Rev. R. C. Weston, is chaplain; Mr. Woodhead is master, and Mrs. Woodhead, matron. Messrs. Perkin and Backhouse, of Leeds, were the architects.

Nov. Fifty cases of fever were admitted into the Leeds House of Recovery during the month of November, being an increase of 56 per cent. on the previous months of the year, and the cases generally were of a very severe character.

#### LEEDS MUNICIPAL ELECTION, 1ST NOVEMBER, 1848.

Those in brackets were elected.

MILL-HILL, [Edwin Birchall, L.; Joseph Town, L.]—WEST, [John Hanson, R, 253; William Avens, L, 225;] William Bland, L, 222.—NORTH-WEST, [William Dixon, L.]—NORTH, J. G. Heaps, R.]—NORTH-EAST, [Thomas Hall, R.]—EAST, [Edward Morgan, R.]—KIRKGATE, [John Jackson, jun., L, 182;] John Garland, C, 161.—SOUTH, [Samuel Croft, L, 200;] Benjamin Barker, R, 102.—HUNSLKT, [Joseph Wilkinson, L, 360;] John Carr, R, 307.—HOLBECK, [Joseph Barker, R, 677; W. E. Hepper, L, 534;] John Whitehead, L, 497; John Tempest, C, 408.—BRAMLEY, [John Lister, C, 268; William Ellis, L, 246;] Saml. Clayton, L, 201; —Bradshaw, L, 1.—HEADINGLEY, [John Daniel, C.]

Nov. 9th John Hope Shaw, Esq., elected mayor.

Sept North-East Ward, *vice* Metcalf, deceased, [David Richardson, C, 106;] Thos. Cordingley, R, 82; James Baldwin, R, 24.

Nov. 8th. Headingley Ward, *vice* Hirst, left the town, [Robert White, C, 176;] Jarvis Brady, R, 78.



1848.—Nov.

Nov. 15. Died, aged 55 years, George Lane Fox, Esq., of Brainham Park, in Yorkshire.

28th. On the evening of this day, about eight o'clock, Stanfield Hall, near Wymondham, was the scene of a most fearful murder. Mr. Jerney, the recorder of Norwich, and his son, were each shot dead by an assassin wrapped in a cloak and masked. The murderer also discharged a pistol at Mrs. Jeremy, the shot shivering one of her arms, and wounding her in the breast. He also shot the maid servant, named Elizabeth Chestney, severely wounding her in the leg. James Bloomfield Rush was apprehended a few hours afterwards on suspicion, and was subsequently committed on a charge of wilful murder. He was tried at Norwich, in April following, the trial occupying six days, and the prisoner conducting his own defence. On the 4th of April, 1849, he was found guilty, and sentenced to death, and was executed on the 21st of the same month in the presence of 20,000 spectators, protesting his innocence to the last.

Dec. 4th. The celebrated Jenny Lind gave a concert at the Music-hall, Leeds. The sum taken for tickets was £700, and would have been larger but for want of room.

11th. Louis Napoleon was elected president of the French Republic by an overwhelming majority. His competitors were General Cavaignac, Ledru Rollin, Raspail, and Lamartine.

WEST-RIDING ELECTION.—11th. In consequence of the elevation of Lord Morpeth to the house of Lords, on the demise of his father, a vacancy occurred in the West-Riding. On November 21st, the Hon. C. W. W. Fitzwilliam, youngest son of Earl Fitzwilliam, of Wentworth House, attended at the Leeds Cloth-hall to address the electors, and met with a very unfavourable reception. He was introduced to the meeting by James Brown, Esq., of Harehills Lodge, after which he made a short speech, and was questioned by Francis Carbutt, Joseph Barker, Joseph Richardson, and others. John Arthur Roebuck who was present on the platform, made a speech on the West-Riding election. Mr. Fitzwilliam afterwards withdrew. The 11th of December was the nomination day at Wakefield. James Hamerton, Esq., of Hellifield Peel, proposed, and Francis Carbutt, Esq., of Leeds, seconded Sir Culling Eardley. The Hon. Edwin Lascelles, M.P., proposed, and John Rand, Esq., of Bradford, seconded Edmund Denison, Esq., of Doncaster. Mr. Isaac Ironsides, of Sheffield, proposed, and Mr. Richard Brook, of Huddersfield, seconded Mr. Samuel Kydd,



1848.—DEC.

of London. Sir Culling Eardley had the show of hands, and a poll was demanded on behalf of Mr. Denison. Sir Culling Eardley, owing to illness could not be present at the nomination, and was represented by John Bright, Esq., M.P. The polling took place on the 14th and 15th of December. The result was for :—

<i>Mr. Denison,</i>	...	...	...	(C.)	14,743.
Sir Culling Eardley,	...	...	...	(L.)	11,795.

---

Majority for Mr. Denison    2,948.

---

Leeds polled for Mr. Denison 1,354 votes, and for Sir C. Eardley, 1,080. ——— 19th. The annual soiree of the Leeds Mechanics' Institution and Literary Society, was celebrated in the Music-hall, Albion-street. The Rev. Dr. Erskine, Dean of Ripon, presided, and addresses were delivered by John Hope Shaw, Esq., mayor., William Beckett, Esq. M.P., Edward Baines, Esq., J. G. Marshall, Esq. M.P., the Rev. Wm. Sinclair, Edmund Denison, Esq., M.P., and others.

22nd. The Lord Chancellor issued a new commission of the peace for the borough of Leeds, dated December 22nd, consisting of :—

Sir Thomas Beckett, Thomas Benyon, William Williams Brown, Thomas William Tottie, Hamer Stansfeld, John Clapham, Edward Grace, George Goodman, James Holdforth, William Pawson, David William Nell, Thomas Hebden, Darnton Lupton, William Smith, Joseph Robert Atkinson, Richard Bramley, Henry Hall, Ralph Markland, Henry Cowper Marshall, John Darnton Luccock, Charles Gascoigne Maclea, Francis Carbutt, John Hope Shaw, William Hey, John Heaton, John Burton, John Cooper, Joseph Cliff, and John Wilkinson.

The Leeds and West-Riding Trade Protection Society was established in 1848. The objects of the society being to guard its members against attempts at fraud ; to obtain information as to the character, &c. ; of persons at a distance desirous of obtaining goods from members ; to collect debts, doubtful, or difficult to obtain, at a moderate commission ; to furnish weekly lists of Preferential Securities, including Warrants of Attorney, Cognovits, &c. Mr. M. Johnson is Secretary. Offices, 8, Park-row.

1849. January. As some workmen were employed in draining the land on "Addle Mill Farm," near Leeds, belonging to Edwin Eddison, Esq., they discovered a

1849.—JAN.

very perfect Roman, or Saxon coffin, hewn out of stone, about seven feet long, two feet wide, and two feet deep, one of the ends being a little wider than the other. The upper side of the coffin lid was scarcely two feet under the surface of the ground. Nothing was inside the coffin except a small quantity of dark looking mould.

Jan. 1st. Matthew Talbot Baines, Esq., was appointed president of the Poor-law Board.——4th. Died, aged 46, at his residence in Park-square, Leeds, John Hepworth Hill, Esq., barrister-at-law. He was educated at Trinity College, Cambridge, where he distinguished himself in his class, and obtained the honour of a senior optime in 1824. He was called to the bar in the year 1827, after which he practised on the northern circuit. At the time of his death he was Recorder of Pontefract, Judge of the Sheriff's court, under the title of Sheriff's assessor; one of the patrons of the Leeds parish church, and a governor of the Leeds Free Grammar school. The late Robert Hall said of him that "he was one of the kindest, truest, and most upright of men: not so quick as some, not so impassioned as others; in his profession he was a safe, untiring, and successful counsellor, ever equal to occasions as they arose; whilst in his general character there shone forth all the sterling qualities that make up a man, their lustre unblemished by one single meanness."——At this time the discovery of gold in California, caused vast numbers of people in the United States of America, and in England, to emigrate to the land of gold.——18th. In the Ecclesiastical court at York, judgment was given against the Rev. Richard Hale, vicar of Harewood, for an alledged "irreverent and unseemly conduct in the pulpit, and also for quarreling, chiding, and brawling by words, during such times (1847) in the parish church of Harewood." The sentence of the court was:—That the Rev. defendant be suspended from his ministry for six months; that he be condemned in the costs of the suit, and that he be admonished to refrain for the future from practices alleged against him.——On Saturday the 27th of January, a fine boy four years old, the son of Mr. Hallowell, farmer, near Haworth, wandered on the moors, and got lost, and although hundreds of people traversed the moors in search of him on Sunday, Monday, and Tuesday, he could not be found. The poor child was found on Wednesday morning, a corpse, having wandered three miles from home, on the dreary heath.

About eleven o'clock in the forenoon of the 24th of Jan-

1849.—JAN.

uary, a terrific explosion took place at the Darley Main colliery, Worsbro' Dale, about two miles south of Barnsley, and near the turnpike road leading from that town to Sheffield. There were more than one hundred men and boys in the pit at the time of the said occurrence. Thirty one married men, and forty four unmarried men and boys, making a total of seventy five, lost their lives. By this melancholy accident thirty one widows and fifty five children were left in a state of great distress. A relief fund was raised for the suffering survivors, and the widows and orphans and families of those who were dead.

Feb. 20th. The first soiree of the Skipton Mechanics' Institution was celebrated in the castle. Henry Alcock, Esq., presided.

March. In this month, at the Music-hall, Leeds, two men and two women, natives of Southern Africa, of the Hottentot tribe, and styled Bosjesmen, or Bushmen, were exhibited and caused a great deal of attraction.

20th. Charles Albert, King of Sardinia, crossed the Ticino on his march to subdue Lombardy. Six days afterwards he abdicated, and made a sudden flight towards France. — 29th, Died, at Madeira, John Lofthouse, Esq., of the firm of Barr, Lofthouse, and Nelson, solicitors, Leeds. He was extensively known, and very highly respected.

23rd. The last arch of the Aire viaduct of the Leeds and Thirsk Railway was completed this day; the first stone was laid on the 31st of May, 1847. The entire length is 1367 feet, and its height from the foundation in the river to the top of the coping 76 feet. There are 22 arches, each of 48 feet span, and one crossing the Leeds and Liverpool canal of a beautiful elliptic form of 41 feet span.

Election of Guardians of the Poor for the township of Leeds, April :—

EAST, Geo. Lumb.—KIRKGATE, Joseph Hall, William Long. —MILL-HILL, Thomas Dawkins, Thomas Eagland, John Patrick. —NORTH, Richard Stead, Thomas Headland.—NORTH-EAST, John Morfitt, Samuel Brown Hargreave.—NORTH WEST, John Howard, William Whitfield.—SOUTH, Thomas Powell, Thomas Harrison.—WEST, Thomas Newsam, William Walker, Peter Law Atkinson. John Morfitt, Esq., was elected chairman.

April 8th. A large amount of property was destroyed at Cowling, near Keighley, by the bursting of a reservoir which supplied with water the small cotton mill, worked by Messrs. Watson, in Ickornshaw. — 11th. A West-Riding

1849.—APRIL.

banquet was given to Richard Cobden, Esq., M.P., in the hall of the Wakefield Corn Exchange. George Goodman, Esq., of Leeds, presided.—12th. A financial reform meeting took place at the Music-hall, Leeds. J. G. Marshall, Esq., presided, and the meeting was addressed by Richard Cobden, Esq., M.P., and others.—14th. The navies engaged on the Huddersfield and Manchester railway, at Marsden and Milnes bridge, near Huddersfield, broke out in riot, owing to some dispute about their wages. Several of the ringleaders were committed to York for trial, on charges of riot and conspiracy, and suffered imprisonment.

25th. At the Leeds Court-house, Messrs. Hay, and Sharp, tobacco manufacturers, of Mill-hill, were charged with, and found guilty of adulterating tobacco. They were fined £300 with the forfeiture of 250lbs of tobacco.

May 21st. SAMUEL GIBSON, a distinguished member of the Manchester Botanists Society, born at Sowerby bridge, Yorkshire, his father being a whitesmith; died May 21st, 1849, at Mytholmroyd, near Hebden bridge; only went for a short time to a Sunday-school; was apprenticed to his father; was a very ingenious mechanic, and an expert and elegant turner; worked as a spindle and fly-maker at Hebden bridge; began to employ his leisure in the study of botany (1818); opened a whitesmith's shop on his own account (1820); and followed the business for the remainder of his life. His contributions to the "Phytologist," and other publications, bear ample testimony to his industry, and to his devotion to science. At his death he left a valuable Herbarium, containing a collection of the flowering plants, ferns, and their allies, of Great Britain, complete to within twenty specimens; extensive collections of mosses, lichens, jungermanniae and marine algae; about 1,000 specimens of British and other seeds, and seed vessels, ingeniously and neatly mounted between thin plates of glass; about 140 specimens of British woods and plants, prepared and mounted for the microscope. In 1826 he commenced the study of entomology, and collected a very valuable series of British insects, arranged in thirty four boxes. In Conchology he made valuable and extensive collections of British, marine, fresh-water, and land shells, as well as a considerable assortment of foreign specimens. In Geology he collected and arranged a cabinet of the fossil shells of mountain limestone, shale and coal measures, which was considered unique. Situate in a country village, remote from books and men of science, and destined to earn his bread by a laborious em-

1849.—MAY.

ployment, this intelligent and excellent man, by his energies and industry, overcame all the difficulties that beset him, and accomplished very much in the way of collecting new objects in almost every department of local natural history. His example gave an impulse to the study of nature in the surrounding districts. He suffered a long illness prior to his death, and his means became circumscribed; but he found a resource in his collections, a good part of which he sold in order to obtain the means of subsistence. The rest he left to his widow and children.

A portrait of Samuel Sebastian Wesley, Mus. Doc., Oxon, was presented to him by a few gentlemen connected with the Leeds parish church choir, as a mark of their friendship and high appreciation of his musical genius.

June. CHOLERA.—During the year 1848, the cholera raged with great severity in Russia and Germany. In September of that year three fatal cases occurred on board a vessel at Hull, and two others on a vessel at Sunderland. In December, several fatal cases occurred at Castleford. In June, 1849, the epidemic broke out in a many parts of England, as well as with much greater severity in Russia, France, Holland, and Ireland. In 1848-9, in London, in fifteen months, the disease was fatal to 18,431 persons. Some idea of its ravages in England may be gathered from the fact that the total deaths from cholera reported to the General Board of Health during 1849, amounted to 72,180. For a single week ended 1st September, there were in England and Wales 3,128 fatal cases. The first case in Leeds occurred on the 12th of June, in the family of an Irishman, named McCarthey, in Wheeler-street, Bank. The next case was that of Jonas Brook, Market-street, who died on the 14th of June. The disease then spread rapidly until September, when it began to diminish. It entirely disappeared about the middle of October. The total deaths from cholera and diarrhea in the *township* of Leeds during the four months amounted to 1,674; the proportion of cases of cholera to diarrhea, being about five to one. The disease was most prevalent in Marsh-lane, York-street, Quarry-hill, Newtown, Leylands, and New-road-end. It was singularly fatal to a family of the name of Craven, in Cavalier-street, no less than eight deaths having occurred in that family alone. In the *borough* of Leeds, the total deaths considerably exceeded 2,000. In the *township* of Hunslet alone, in sixteen weeks ended 10th of October, there were 432 fatal cases. It broke out first at Hunslet-carr, and in less than a week there were 28 deaths.

1849.—JUNE.

Mr. J. Wilkinson, flax-spinner, of Hunslet, fell a victim to the disease. At Beeston, out of 48 cases, 17 proved fatal. It may be mentioned here that Captain Waterton's cholera powder proved very useful in the first stages of the disease, and his house was literally besieged by parties anxious to possess it. During the cholera in Leeds, the following articles were destroyed by order of the town's surgeons, namely, 868 flock beds, 258 flock pillows, 12 pillow cases, 15 bed-ticks, 375 coverlets, 546 blankets, and 282 cotton sheets; they were replaced out of the poor rates. The malady raged with great violence at Wakefield. In the lunatic asylum there, from the 4th to the 19th of October, out of a total of 500 inmates, 40 cases proved fatal. A curious fact is mentioned in the report to the Registrar General on the mortality of cholera in England and Wales, namely, that the cholera everywhere prevailed more on certain days of the week and less on others. "On Saturdays, Mondays, Tuesdays, and Wednesdays; the deaths from cholera were above, and on Thursdays, Fridays, and Sundays below the average. In the whole country, Tuesday was the most, Friday the least fatal day of the week. The disparity of the deaths was greatest in London, where 2,194 persons died on Mondays, 2,136 on Tuesdays, and only 1,927 on Thursdays, and 1,824 on Fridays. The weekly wages there are generally paid on Saturdays, and the Mondays in London and other large cities, are the days on which a certain proportion of the population indulge in intoxicating drinks. The Fridays are days of comparative abstinence."

July 2nd. Died, at the rectory, Kemerton, the residence of his son, Robert Disney Thorp, M.D., late of Leeds, in the 83rd year of his age. Dr. Thorp was for a many years one of the leading medical men of the town, and was for a long time one of the physicians of the Leeds General Infirmary.——9th. The Leeds and Thirsk railway was opened this day.——11th. Died, Mr Justice Coltman, aged 68, of Cholera, at his house in Hyde Park gardens, London.——30th. A public meeting convened by the mayor was held at the Court-house, Leeds, to sympathise with the Hungarian nation against the encroachments of Austrian despotism. Meetings were held at Wakefield, Bradford, and other places, for the same object.——At the end of July and in the early part of August, the Yorkshire Agricultural Society held its annual meeting at Leeds, for the exhibition of stock, implements, &c. The exhibition was held in a large piece of ground formerly used as allotment gardens,



1849.—JULY.

situate between the river Aire and Wellington-street, and adjoining Gott's factory. The great dinner of the society was held in the Stock Exchange, Leeds. The Earl of Carlisle presided, and the Earl of Harewood acted as vice-chairman.——On the 31st of July and the 1st of August, took place, at the Infirmary gardens, Leeds, a grand horticultural and floral exhibition.

Aug. 3rd. The Rev. John Burdsell and the Rev. James Everett, both of York, were expelled the Wesleyan conference, on a charge of being concerned in the authorship of the *Fly Sheets*, an anonymous publication, which contained remarks upon the proceedings of the conference. These expulsions were followed by that of Messrs. Griffith, Dunn, and others, which led to a serious schism in the Methodist society, and which, in fact, resulted in the formation of "The Reform Methodists," who have since amalgamated with the Wesleyan Association.——Aug. 16th. A new decimal coin, called "a florin," one-tenth of a £, was issued from the Mint. This issue was soon after countermanded owing to an omission of the words *Dei Gratia* and *Fidei Defensor*, and a re-issue made of the present florin.

18th. Mr. Wm. Beckwith, secretary and collector to the Leeds Infirmary, was brought before the Leeds magistrates, and committed on a charge of embezzlement of £1,020 7s. of the funds of the charity, and was on the 29th of October transported for seven years.

Sept. During this month the workmen employed in quarrying at Keniton, in Somerset, discovered the remains of two very fine Saurian reptiles, embedded in the lias, one a specimen of *Plesiosaurus macrocephalus*, nine feet in length; the other *Ichthyosaurus communis*, measuring six feet in length. The former was purchased and presented to the Leeds Philosophical and Literary Society by J. G. Marshall, Esq., and the latter by Wm. Williams Brown, Esq.——20th. The Fallowfield-terrace estate, belonging to Mr. Masser, lithographer, consisting of seven dwelling-houses, near Carr-place, Leeds, was raffled for at the Music-hall, this day. It was disposed of in 4,800 shares of a guinea each, and the estimated rental of the whole estate was £230 per annum. Mr. Thomas Bailey, bunting maker, Holbeck, was the winner of the estate. Mr. Titterington, librarian, Holbeck, drew the second prize of £150. Mr. Masser was afterwards prosecuted by the crown, for holding the illegal lottery, and adjudged to be imprisoned and kept to hard labour in the borough house of correction for the space of



1849.—SEPT.

seven days.——Burley, near Leeds, was constituted a separate district for spiritual purposes, under Sir Robert Peel's act. On the 30th of September, the Rev. Thomas Sturgeon, M.A., curate of St. George's, Leeds, was nominated the minister of the new district. It was endowed with £150 a year, by the trustees of the late Mrs. Matthewman, who bequeathed a certain fund for promoting divine worship according to the liturgy and usages of the United Church of England and Ireland.

29th. The foundation stone of St. Thomas's church, North-street, Leylands, Leeds, was laid by Dr. Hook. This handsome edifice is built of brick, with stone facings in the decorated style, and forms an object of beauty. It was erected at the sole cost of M. J. Rhodes, Esq., gentleman. It is worthy of being noticed, that the munificent donor had previously accumulated considerable wealth on the very site on which the church now stands. It cost £7,000. Connected therewith is a school, built of brick, with stone facings, raised from subscriptions and grant of the Committee of Council of Education. The perpetual curacy is in the gift of the vicar. Incumbent, Rev. A. Bolland, M.A.

Oct. 6th. Meanwood church was consecrated by the Bishop of Ripon.——On Sunday morning, the 7th of October, about eleven o'clock, the dead body of a man named James Dufton, late an inmate of Hunslet Workhouse, was found lying in a burning flint kiln at the Leeds Pottery, occupied by Messrs. Warburton and Co. The head of the deceased was completely burnt off, his skull reduced to a cinder, and his right arm burnt to the socket. His body, on the right side, was also much injured by the fire; and had a little longer time elapsed before the discovery was made, it is probable that very little of the poor fellow would have been unconsumed except the legs, which were the only members not in immediate contact with the burning flint. It is supposed that he had gone to the kiln on the previous Saturday night, fallen asleep upon it, and in this situation, suffocated with the smoke, the door of the kiln being closed.

Nov. 1st. The foundation stone of the new Baptist chapel, near St. George's church, was laid by Geo. Goodman, Esq. This sacred edifice sprang out of some trivial division which originated in the South-parade place of worship. It is an imposing building of stone, in the early decorated style of architecture. The opening ceremony took place on the 15th of Jan., 1851; on which occasion the Hon. and Rev. Baptist Noel preached. It will seat 600 persons. The cost amounted to £2,800. The Rev. Dr. Brewer is minister.

1849.—Nov.

## LEEDS MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS, 1ST NOVEMBER, 1849.

Those in brackets were elected.

MILL-HILL, [John Moorhouse, L, A. Titley, L.]—WEST, [Wm. Bland, L, Robt. Foster Wray, R.]—NORTH WEST, [G. Johnstone Crowther, L.]—NORTH, [W. Mawson, L.]—NORTH EAST, [Jas. Dufton, L, 228 ;] W. Hartley, R, 44 —EAST, [J. Wainman, L.]—KIRKGATE, [John Garland, C, 181 ;] William Kettlewell, L, 179. SOUTH, [John Broadhead, L.]—HUNSLET, [E Blackburn, L.]—HOLBECK, [Benjamin Barker, R, 649 ; John Whitehead, L, 597 ;] Samuel Stead, L, 518 ; Richard Atkinson, C, 445.—BRAMLEY, [Joseph Barker, L, 328 ; George Waring, R, 188 ;] Joseph Oddy, C, 158.—HEADINGLEY, [Robert White, C]

Nov. 9th. Joseph Bateson elected mayor.

February 4th. Headingley, *vice* Martin, deceased, [George Skirrow Beecroft, C, 73 ;] James Kitson, L, 19.

Nov. 2. The annual soiree of the Leeds Mechanics' Institution was held at the Music-hall. Lord Viscount Mahon presided, and the meeting was addressed by the Dean of Ripon, J. A. Roebuck, Esq., R. M. Milnes, Esq., and others.——15th. Her Majesty appointed this day to be kept as a day of general praise and thanksgiving to Almighty God, for having mercifully abated the grievous disease (cholera) with which the kingdom had been so lately visited.

Dec. 1st. Died, at his villa, Argill-hill, near Barnsley, Ebenezer Elliott, the "Corn Law Rhymer." He was born on the 17th of March, 1781, at the New Foundry, Masbro', in the parish of Rotherham. His father, a fanatic in religion and politics, but a brave strong-minded man, was for several years a clerk in an iron foundry at Masbro', ultimately commenced business as a master ironfounder, but his affairs going wrong, he died in poverty. Ebenezer was first sent to a dame's school, and then to the Hollis school, where he showed no aptitude for knowledge or culture, was guilty of playing truant, and once got into a scrape by stealing duck-eggs in mistake for the eggs of wild birds. 'Sowerby's English Botany' first developed his poetical tendencies, the coloured plates of which he learned to copy, and "was lifted at once above the inmates of the alehouse at least a foot in mental stature." "Never," he says, "shall I forget the impression made upon me by the beautiful plates. I actually touched the figure of the primrose, half convinced that the mealiness on the leaves was real." He became passionately fond of flowers—of all passions the most elegant and innocent. They glow in every page of his works, and perfume the very book :—

1849.—DEC.

“Flowers, ye remind me of rock, vale, and wood,  
 Haunts of my early days, and still loved well :  
 . . . . . your hues, your breath,  
 Call up the dead to combat still with death :  
 The spirits of my buried years arise !  
 Again a child, where childhood roved I run ;  
 While groups of speedwell, with their bright blue eyes,  
 Like happy children cluster in the sun.  
 Still the wan primrose hath a golden core ;  
 The millfoil, thousand-leafed as heretofore,  
 Displays a little world of flow’rets gray ;  
 And tiny maids might hither come to cull  
 The wo-marked cowslip of the dewy May, etc.”

‘Thomson’s Seasons’ gave him the first hint of the eternal alliance between poetry and nature. Milton and Shakespeare also contributed to his education. From his sixteenth to his twenty-third year he worked for his father as laboriously as any servant he had, and without wages, except a shilling or two for pocket money. His first start in business as an iron-master at Sheffield was a failure. He made a second start in 1821, being then 40 years of age. He commenced with a borrowed capital of £150, and by strict attention to business ultimately realised a fortune. He could sit in his chair and make his £20 a day without even seeing the goods he dealt in, which were sold from the wharf as they arrived. Mr. Howitt describes his warehouse as a dingy place, full of bars of iron of all sizes, standing in heaps everywhere around, so that there was only just room for passage—and in the midst a large cast of Shakespeare. Another writer from America describes a visit he paid to the poet, whom he found at his house near his place of business. “The Corn Law Rhymer stood on the threshold in his stocking feet, holding a pair of coarse shoes in his hand. His frank “walk in,” assured me I was welcome. I was confronted with a burly ironmonger, rapid in speech, glowing with enthusiasm, putting and answering a dozen questions in a breath ; eulogising American republicanism, throwing sarcasms at the Duke of Wellington, and anointing General Jackson with the oil of flattery ; pouring out a flood of racy talk about church establishments, poetry, politics, the price of iron, and the price of corn ; while ever and anon he thrust his damp feet into the embers, and hung his shoes on the grate to dry.” The great panic and revulsion of 1837 swept away a considerable portion of his little fortune. He says “I lost fully one third of all my savings, and after

1849.—DEC.

enabling my six boys to quit the nest, got out of the fracas with about £6,000, which I will try to keep." He retired from business and from active interference in politics, and left Sheffield in 1841, to spend the rest of his days at Great Houghton, near Barnsley, where he had built himself a house. 'My family here consists of Mrs. Elliott, my two daughters, a servant maid, and a man who works for me occasionally : rid the corn laws, and I shall not be without dim visions of a flunkey. My establishment is illustrious for a St. Bernard dog, and a Welsh pony, the observed of all observers, which, in its green old age of twenty years, draws a small gig, both untaxed. I also run my only Sheffield carriage, the wheelbarrow, besides a pony cart, and I have set up a grindstone. Conceive of me, then, possessed of a mare, gig, and harness, which, with repairs cost £8 10s ; a dog almost as big as the mare, and much wiser than his master ; a pony cart ; a wheelbarrow ; and a grindstone, and turn up your nose if you like !" In one of his poems he draws a beautiful picture of a family group, and domestic happiness, once his own :—

"Blessed is the hearth when daughters gird the fire,  
And sons that shall be happier than their sire,  
Who sees them crowd around his evening chair,  
While love and hope inspire his wordless prayer.  
O from their home paternal may they go,  
With little to unlearn, though much to know !  
Them, may no poisoned tongue, no evil eye,  
Curse for the virtues that refuse to die ;  
The generous heart, the independent mind,  
Till truth, like falsehood, leaves a sting behind !  
May Temperance crown their feast, and Friendship share !  
May pity come, Love's sister spirit, there !  
May they shun baseness, as they shun the grave !  
May they be frugal, pious, humble, brave !  
Sweet peace be theirs—the moonlight of the breast—  
And occupation, and alternate rest ;  
And dear to care and thought the rural walk ;  
Theirs' be no flower that withers on the stalk,  
But roses cropped, that shall not bloom in vain ;  
And Hope's blessed sun, that sets to rise again.  
Be chaste their nuptial bed, their home be sweet,  
Their floor resound the tread of little feet ;  
Blessed beyond fear and fate, if blessed by thee,  
And heirs, O Love ! of thine Eternity."

1849.—DEC.

During all the time he was in business, and in his retirement, he found solace in composition. His published works, are :—1. Corn Law Rhymes, 2. Love, a poem, 3. The Village Patriarch, a poem, 4. Poetical Works, 5. More Verse and Prose by the Corn Law Rhymers, in two volumes. The late venerable poet Montgomery states that in originality, power, and even beauty, when he chose to be beautiful,—he might have measured heads beside Byron in tremendous energy; Crabbe in graphic description, and Coleridge in effusions of domestic tenderness; while in intense sympathy with the poor, in whatsoever he deemed their wrongs or their sufferings, he excelled them all.—and perhaps everybody else among contemporaries, in prose and verse.” For several months prior to his death, his life was one of great suffering, and equal fortitude. His beloved daughter Fanny was married a short time before his death. On the wedding day he was supported from his bed to the window, to see the return of the party from church. The fatigue was almost more than he could bear. ‘My child,’ he said to Fanny, ‘I feel so weak that an infant could fell me with a primrose.’ Hearing a robin sing beneath his chamber window, he had just strength to dictate what proved to be his last notes :—

“Thy notes, sweet Robin, soft as dew,  
Heard soon or late, are dear to me;  
To music I could bid adieu,  
But not to thee.

When from my eyes this life's throng  
Has pass'd away, no more to be;  
Then Autumn's primrose, Robin's song,  
Return to me.

Thus in strains of gentle music did the spirit of the poet pass away into eternity. He was buried in great privacy, as he wished to be, in the churchyard of the beautiful little village of Darfield. The consanguinity between the poet and the man is shown in the subjoined epitaph written by himself :—

Stop, Mortal ! Here thy brother lies,  
The Poet of the Poor.  
His books were rivers, woods, and skies,  
The meadow and the moor;  
His teachers were the torn hearts' wail,  
The tyrant, and the slave,  
The street, the factory, the jail,  
The palace—and the grave !

1850.—JAN.

The meanest thing, earth's feeblest worm,  
 He feared to scorn or hate ;  
 And honoured in a peasant's form  
 The equal of the great.  
 But if he loved the rich who make  
 The poor man's little more,  
 Ill could he praise the rich who take  
 From plundered labour's store.  
 A hand to do, a head to plan,  
 A heart to feel and dare—  
 Tell man's worst foes, here lies the man  
 Who drew them as they are.

1850. Jan 2nd. The Rev. T. Scales, minister of Queen-street chapel, Leeds, having resigned his pastorship in consequence of declining health, the members of the church and congregation presented him with a purse of one hundred sovereigns, accompanied by a testimonial, expressive of their gratitude for his past services, and the deep interest felt in his future welfare. Mr. Scales had been minister thirty years, and commenced first in the old white chapel.

5th. Batley, near Dewsbury, was for three days, commencing this day, the scene of a great deal of excitement caused by a poll of the ratepayers, "As to whether Batley should or should not be lighted with gas." The result of the poll for ayes was 590 ; noes, 506 ; majority 84 in favour of gas.——9th. The congregation of St. George's church, Leeds, and the teachers of the school, presented to the Rev. T. Sturgeon, on his removal to his new charge at Burley, a testimonial of respect, consisting of a pocket silver communion service, presented by the teachers of the school, and a silver tea service and £200 by the congregation.

11th. The "Lion Queen," Ellen Bright, was killed by a tiger in Wombwell's menagerie at Chatham.

29th. The Humber, the Trent, and the Ouse were visited by a tide of extraordinary height. There were 29 feet 8 inches of water at the Humber dock gates. Many parts of Hull were deeply flooded. At Goole, the banks of the Ouse gave way in two places, and hundreds of acres within five or six miles of that port were speedily laid under water. Boats were floated into the fields, and were used for the rescue of swine and other live stock. The Goole and Boothferry road was one foot under water, and the ferry having become impassible, parties from Howden for Goole, who wished to cross the Ouse, had to go up to Sandhall. On the Trent at



1850.—JAN.

Flixbro' Stather, the fields were under water as far as the eye could see from the steamers, which came down to Hull from Gainsbro'. The Medway and the Thames were also much swollen, the water overflowed the banks, and inundated a large space of country, doing immense damage.

Feb. 5th. Leeds was visited this evening by a most terrific storm of wind and rain. One of the pinnacles of St. Ann's Roman Catholic church was blown off, the stones of which it consisted falling upon and through the roof into the church. A new building, fourteen yards long and three stories high, just erected above the boiler houses on the premises of Messrs. J. Wilkinson and Co., flax spinners, at Hunslet, was also blown down. In other parts of Yorkshire, the storm raged with great violence, doing considerable damage.

8th. Joseph Bateson, Esq., mayor of Leeds, gave a very brilliant party and ball, at the Assembly-rooms, Crown-street.——On the same day took place the ceremonial of opening the organ at St. George's church, Leeds. The instrument was built by Messrs. Holt. It was designed by Mr. R. S. Burton, late organist at St. George's, who superintended its erection. Dr. S. S. Wesley presided at the opening.——28th. The old custom of putting out the lights amongst the weavers, was celebrated by the work-people of Messrs. Ellis, manufacturers, Armley, at the Geldard Arms inn.

March 4th. An explosion and a fire occurred at the Naptha manufactory of Mr. James Bapty, New Wortley, near Leeds, by which a Mr. Brook, lost his life, and other persons were injured.——5th. That magnificent structure, the Britannia Tubular Bridge, across the Menia Straits was opened this day.——6th. A society to provide judicious and charitable inquiry into the circumstances of mendicants, in order to aid the beneficent distribution of private benevolence in the relief of the deserving poor, called the "Charitable Inquiry Office," originated this day by a number of influential gentlemen of Leeds, in the Philosophical-hall.

At this time the small pox was prevalent in almost all parts of Leeds; no doubt caused by the great neglect of vaccination, during and since the prevalence of the cholera.

On the 7th of March, a slip of paper was found in a crevice of an old stone quarry, at Armley, belonging to the family of the late Benjamin Gott, Esq., from which no stone had been taken for twenty or thirty years. It contained the following memorandum, the signature being written with blood :—



Rambling is a pleasure  
 Beauty will decay,  
 Life will not last for ever  
 So I'll go my way.

The first opportunity will the above be put into execution. Witness my hand, this 16th day of September, 1833, in my own blood. "ABRAHAM HUTCHINSON."

The writer it is said was the son of Mr. John Hutchinson, cloth manufacturer, Armley, he had led a rambling life, and was at this time (1850) at Bermuda, in the West Indies.

A goose belonging to Mr. John Hannal, of Clough mills, Huddersfield, weighing 15lbs, and being eleven months old, laid a egg which measured round the long way  $12\frac{3}{4}$  inches, and round the largest circular part  $9\frac{1}{4}$  inches.

16th. John Jessop, a blacksmith at Clayton, near Bradford, aged 24, attempted to murder his wife by firing a pistol at her. He then blew his own brains out with another pistol, and fell dead on the floor. The wife who was wounded in the left breast, survived the shot.——19th. A public meeting of bankers, merchants, manufacturers, and other inhabitants of Leeds, was held in the Court-house, for the purpose of promoting the success of the great exhibition of the industry of all nations in 1851.——25th. A horse belonging to Mrs. Ball, Marsh-lane, Leeds, died, after being ill for a day or two, and on a post mortem examination of the animal by Mr. Carter, smith and farrier, two round stones were found in its stomach. The largest weighed  $4\frac{1}{2}$ lbs, and the other more than 12ozs. They were quite smooth, and there is no doubt they were the cause of the animals illness and death. They were presented to the Philosophical and Literary society, by Mr. Jowett.

Guardians of the Poor of the township of Leeds, elected April 5th, 1850 :—

EAST, Geo. Lumb, John Kighley Clapham.——KIRKGATE, Wm. Long, Seth Joy——MILL-HILL, Thos. Dawkins, Thos. Eagland, John Patrick.——NORTH, Richard Stead, Thomas Harrison.——NORTH-EAST, elected, John Morfitt, 719; Samuel Brown Hargreave, 705; defeated, John Prest, 178.——NORTH-WEST, Wm. Whitfield, Geo. Edward Taylor.——SOUTH, James Smith, Thomas Powell.——WEST, Thomas Newsam, Peter Law Atkinson, William Walker.

John Morfitt was elected chairman.

April 5th. James Montgomery, Esq., the venerable poet of Sheffield, being in his 79th year, attended divine service at the Moravian chapel, Fulneck. The poet was educated

1850.—APRIL.

at the seminary there, and had for a many years paid a visit on Good Friday to that quiet and romantic village.

11th. Great excitement was caused in Leeds at this time by the renewal of the education question. A public meeting was held in the Court-house, to promote national non-sectarian education, based upon local management. Hamer Stansfeld, Esq., presided, and the meeting was addressed by Dr. Smiles, Mr. Wm. Brook, and others. On the 15th, a meeting was held at twelve o'clock at noon, at the Court-house, and by adjournment from thence, to the Music-hall, at seven o'clock in the evening. The object of this meeting was of supporting national education on the principle of strict impartiality to all religious sects, and as far as possible on the basis of local management. Mr. Alderman Shaw presided, and the meeting was addressed by the Rev. Wm. Sinclair, the Rev. Chas. Wicksteed, Mr. Councillor Joseph Barker, and others. On the 16th, another meeting was held at noon, in the Coloured Cloth-hall yard, to petition against the bill for secular education, brought into the House of Commons by Mr. W. J. Fox. The Rev. Dr. Holmes presided, and addresses were delivered by Mr. Alderman Carbutt, the Rev. Mr. Williams, Edward Baines, Esq. and others. Hamer Stansfeld, Esq., proposed, and Dr. Smiles seconded, an amendment in favour of secular education, which was supported by Mr. Councillor Joseph Barker, and others. At six o'clock in the evening a show of hands was taken, when the amendment was declared to be carried.

17th. The first meeting of the Leeds Madrigal and Motet society was held this day. The object of the society was to encourage and promote a taste for vocal part music. Mr. Wm. Spark was appointed the musical director.

20th. Four men named George Tallerton, Robert Farrer, Nathaniel Scholey, and William Jacques, excavators, employed at some new reservoirs on Romalds moor, after drinking at a public house till late in the evening, at Otley, commenced breaking windows and damaging other property, and on being checked by several parties, they made a most brutal attack on the persons present, by which John Dawson was killed, five others were stabbed, and a sixth had his neckcloth cut in an attempt to get at his throat. They were committed to York on a charge of wilful murder. The first was transported for three years, and the three latter for life.

23rd. William Wordsworth the poet, died.

May. A serious dispute existed at this time between the Leeds magistrates and the town council, which threatened

1850.—MAY.

to become a matter of litigation, as the former body had threatened proceedings in the Queen's bench. It would seem that the justices had increased the salaries of some of the officers of the Leeds Borough Gaol, and purchased provisions for the use of the gaol from the Leeds district flour mill, and that when the orders on the treasurer of the borough for the payment, amounting to £968 12s. 8d., were sent to the council for confirmation, that body had refused to confirm them. The dispute was settled early in June by deputations from the council and justices holding a conference, and agreeing to certain rules of guidance for the future.

June 11th. John Kirk, a brick-maker, died at Buslingthorpe, Leeds, at the advanced age of 103 years. The deceased formerly resided in Park-lane. He came from Derbyshire to Leeds in 1763, and was first employed in making bricks for the Leeds Infirmary, which was opened for the reception of patients in 1768. Up to within two months of his death his eyesight was perfectly good, and he never had occasion to use a stick in walking.

19th. The Rev. Dr. Bunting, a distinguished minister of the Wesleyan Connexion, was entertained at a public breakfast in the Brunswick rooms, Leeds, on which occasion upwards of 600 persons from the Leeds four circuits assembled together. After which, an address to the reverend gentleman was adopted, expressive of admiration of his public character.——27th. As Her Majesty was leaving Cambridge-house this afternoon, a respectably-dressed man, named Robert Pate, a retired lieutenant of the 10th Hussars, sprang forward, and with a small stick struck her a smart blow on the face. He was taken into custody, and transported for seven years.

July 2nd. Sir Robert Peel was thrown from his horse near the Green-park, in London, on the 29th of June, and was so severely injured that he expired on the 2nd of July. The event caused the most intense and wide spread grief throughout the kingdom. No statesman of modern times, with the exception of Lord Palmerston, had spent so many years in the civil service of the crown as Sir Robert Peel. In 1841, he became First Lord of the Treasury, and rendered, perhaps the highest service ever rendered to a nation in 1846, by abolishing the Corn Laws—a service which caused his expulsion from office, alienated his political friends, and brought on him the worst imputations, and the most implacable enmity. He was born February 5th, 1788.

1852 — FEB.

when all at once, in a moment, the ponderous embankment was carried away by the force and weight of the pent up waters, and desolation, ruin, and death, overspread the rich and fertile valley for miles. Trees were torn up by the roots, and hurried onward by the rush of waters, roaring with renewed fury as they swept down each successive obstruction. The death-shrieks of scores were hushed as the flood passed forwards to new scenes of destruction and death, leaving in its track, ponderous pieces of rock weighing many tons ; the dead carcasses of horses, cows, goats, and other cattle ; here and there broken machinery, bags of wool, carding machines, dye-pans, steam engine boilers, timber, spars, looms, furniture, and every variety of wreck. It would seem as if the whole body of accumulated waters had tumbled down the valley together, sweeping all before them, throwing a four story mill down like a thing of nought, tossing steam-engine boilers about like feathers, and carrying death and destruction in their progress. In consequence of the narrowness between the mountain bluffs on either side, a vast volume of water was kept together, which spent its force upon Holmfirth, where the mass of houses, shops, mills, warehouses, and other buildings were expected to present a formidable barrier to its further progress. The check, however, was but momentary, for the flood with the mass of floating wreck which it carried in its bosom, shot through buildings, gutting some, and tumbling down others, until it found a further outlet, and passed on doing more or less damage lower down the valley at Thongs Bridge, Honley, and Armitage Bridge. After passing the place last mentioned, the flood got more into the open country, spreading itself out in the fields and swelling the rivers down below Huddersfield. Volumes might be written on the details and incidents connected with the catastrophe. A few of the most striking may be mentioned. A few hundred yards below the reservoir stood a small building, two stories high, called Bilberry mill, in the occupation of Joseph Broadhead, and used as a scribbling and dressing mill. The end of the mill was caught by the sudden swell, and about ten feet in length and its gable were washed down the valley. A little further down the valley, and on the same side as Bilberry mill, stood Digley Upper mill, lately occupied by Mr. John Furniss, woollen manufacturer. The building was a block of stone work, consisting of a factory, a large house, farm buildings, and outhouses. The end of the mill was washed away, a quantity of machinery, and a large amount of pro-

1852.—FEB.

perty in the shape of pieces, warps, &c., destroyed, and the gable end of the house, which was comparatively new, and the farm buildings swept away. In the latter were twelve tons of hay, three cows, a horse, and several head of poultry, which were all carried down the stream. A short distance below Mr. Furniss's premises stood Digley mill property, which consisted of a large building sixty yards square, four stories high, built of stone; a weaving shed, containing thirty-four looms and other machinery; two dwelling houses, seven cottages, farm, and other outbuildings, making altogether a small town. Adjacent to it, in the valley and on the hill side, were several fields of rich and fertile land; the whole forming a secluded but compact estate, valued at from twelve to fifteen thousand pounds. In one of the houses, built on the river side, resided Mrs. Hirst, widow of the late George Hirst; and in the other resided Henry Beardsall, her son-in-law. The cottages were occupied by the workpeople. The buildings formed a mass of solid stone work; but the torrent swept it away like a straw, carrying its ponderous machinery down the valley, and tossing its boilers about with the greatest ease. The engine was carried from its place, and became embedded in the mud lower down the valley. The house built on the hill side remained, but the cottages and all the other buildings were carried away, except a tall engine chimney. With the buildings were swept away four cows and a valuable horse. Bank End mill is the next building in the valley. Its gable end, and one window from the top to the bottom of the building, was washed away. It was completely gutted in the lower rooms, and the machinery in the upper stories was thrown together in heaps. The dyehouse and stove, about twenty yards long, were completely cleared away, leaving nothing of them standing above the ground. This property belonged to John Roebuck, whose loss was estimated at from two to three thousand pounds. The valley here widens, until it reaches Holme Bridge, a small village, composed of a few hundred inhabitants. The stream here is crossed by a bridge of one arch, about forty yards on one side of which stands Holme Church, in the centre of a grave-yard; and about the same distance on the other side stand a toll-gate and a number of dwellings. The foundations of the bridge were washed completely bare, and the stream flowing from the Bilberry reservoir for some weeks passed through a large opening washed away in the road on the outside of the bridge, which was about ten yards wide, ten feet deep, and had to

1852.—FEB.

be crossed by a plank. The wall surrounding the church had been washed away by the torrent, and the few trees planted in the yard were uprooted and had gone down the stream. The interior of the church and the grave-yard presented a melancholy spectacle. Inside the church the water had risen about five feet. The floor was torn up—the pews had been floating, and the floor was covered with sand and mud several inches thick. In the centre of the aisle was laid the body of a goat which had been washed from upper Digley mill, and within a few feet of it, resting on the seat of one of the pews, lay the coffin and remains of a full grown man. Both these relics, with others not found, had been washed up from their graves by the whirlpools formed by the current, as it passed over the churchyard. The road and fields from the reservoir downwards to this point were almost covered with huge masses of stone and other loose substances, of which the bank of the reservoir had been formed. Down to this point, no human life appears to have been lost ; but a little lower down, at the village of Hinchliffe mill, the loss of life was very great. This village is on the left bank of the river, and consists principally of cottage houses. The factory, which gives its name to the village, is a large building five stories high, built on the opposite side of the river, and which remained, though the water had passed its first and second floor, and done great damage to the machinery. The mill was for some time blocked up to the windows in the second story with huge pieces of timber, broken machinery, and wreck of various descriptions, which the torrent brought down from the mills above. On the village side of the river, six dwellings, which formed “Water-street,” were swept down, and hurled forward with the flood, and thirty five of the inmates perished. The following is a list of the occupants of the houses that were swept down. The first house was occupied by Miss Marsden and three others ; the second by Joseph Todd, his wife and children ; the third by Jonathan Crosland, and seven others ; the fourth by James Metternick, and nine others ; the fifth by Joshua Earnshaw, his little girl, and two sons ; and the sixth by John Charlesworth, and nine others. The houses in this neighbourhood not washed down were, in some cases flooded into the chambers ; and in one of them—the endmost left standing—were sixteen individuals, who saved their lives by getting on an adjoining roof. In the adjoining houses, which are known by a different name, five persons perished from the houses being filled with water. Of the



1852.—FEB

five persons who perished in the houses above Hinchliffe, three were drowned in one house, viz. :—James Booth, his wife, and a lodger. In the same pile of buildings, the wife of Joseph Brook, (who was endeavouring to save herself and child,) was drowned with her infant in her arms. The country grows wider below the last-mentioned place, and in the centre of a wide valley stands Bottom's mill. From the open country here offered to the stream, this factory, which is a very large one, sustained comparatively little damage. After leaving Bottom's mill, the torrent assailed the machine shops and works of Pogson and Co. ; proceeding thence to Harpin's Victoria woollen mill, doing great damage. Machinery was broken ; outhouses and cottages carried away, and much other property destroyed. At the time of the calamity, twenty persons were in these cottages, who were only rescued by a communication being opened up through the walls with the end house, which was rather higher up away from the flood. Here, in one chamber, the poor creatures were huddled together, expecting momentary death, when at last the water abated sufficiently to allow of their being removed, which was scarcely effected before the house fell. Within a short distance of Victoria mill stands Dyson's mill, which was occupied by Mr. Sandford ; in the yard of which mill Mr. Sandford resided. His house was swept away, and with it himself, his two children, and servant. The factory sustained very serious damage both in its walls and machinery. Mr. Sandford was a person of considerable property, and is said to have had three or four thousand pounds in the house at that time. However this may be, it is known that he had just before been in treaty for the purchase of a considerable estate at Penistone, and that he had only that very week given instructions to a sharebroker at Huddersfield to buy for him a large amount of London and North Western railway stock. His life was also insured for a large sum. The bodies of Mr. Sandford's two daughters and his housekeeper were found a few days after the flood ; but the body of Mr. Sandford was not found until the 20th of February. His friends wished to find the body in order to prove his death, without which they would not have been entitled to receive the amount secured by his policy of insurance. A reward of ten pounds was therefore in the first instance offered for the recovery of the body, which sum was afterwards increased to one hundred pounds. Procklington, or Farrar's upper mill is the next, the large dyehouse of which was completely destroyed, with its huge



1852.—FEB.

pans and fixtures. The damage was estimated at two to three thousand pounds ; and one of the boilers weighing six tons, was carried by the water to Berry Brow, a distance of three miles. These were the property of Mr. John Farrar. The factory known as the Lower Mill, situate a little below, was built across the stream ; but the torrent of water rushed onward and carried the greater portion of the building along with it, leaving only the two ends standing. The mill was filled with valuable machinery and woollen material, and was the property of Mr. Hobson Farrar. In the factory yard two children were drowned, and a little further down a third child was discovered dead. At the George Inn, near this place, nine bodies, principally recovered from the stream, were laid. Amongst them were Jonathan Crossland and his son, a young man, the latter of whom had been taken out at upper mill, where he had been so tightly wedged into the wall that two men had hard work to drag him out. Between Mr. Farrar's dyehouse and Holmfirth is a place called Scarr Fold, where a man, his wife, and two children resided. When the water burst into the house, they were all in bed, and his wife and two children were drowned ; but the husband was awoke by hearing a loud crack, and immediately the water rushed into his house, burst open the staircase door, and floated him up into the room above ; where he narrowly escaped death, but fortunately the water did not quite reach the ceiling. Here he remained until the flood had subsided. At Holmfirth, hundreds of dwellings were inundated, some of them were filled to the top story, compelling the inmates to escape through, and get upon the roof for safety ; indeed the houses were thoroughly gutted. The shops were principally situate at the lowest point of the village, near to the bridge, and the stocks of most of them were destroyed. The upper bridge was dismantled and overflowed ; and Hallowgate, a long street, suffered severely from the flood. The bed of the river was completely choked up, and the current diverted from its usual course. Happily no lives were lost ; but the most heart-rending scenes occurred to the inhabitants of some of the houses on the opposite side of the street, the foundations of which are now washed by the river. On the left hand side of what the day previous was a narrow street, stood the toll-bar house kept by S. Greenwood, who with his wife and child were swept away. He was seen to come out of the house with a lighted candle in his hand ; returned into the house, closed the door after him, and in a moment or two not a vestige of the house

1852.—FEB.

could be seen. Lower down, on the same side of the street, was an extensive warehouse, occupied by Messrs. Crawshaw, curriers, which was swept away, as also a cottage, in which a man with his wife and child perished. A cottage adjoining these premises met a similar fate. It was occupied by a labouring man, with whom lived his son-in-law and daughter with their child. The three latter were drowned; while a remarkable deliverance awaited the old man; who was driven by the force of the current into Victoria-square, on the opposite side, a little lower down the street. He was seen floating on the water by a person, who at once stretched out a pole to the drowning man, and rescued him from almost certain death. At Rochet, Mr. James Lee, tailor, perished, and the only wonder is that the house did not come down. Lee and his grandson Job, were down stairs at the time making some black clothes for a funeral. The flood burst open the door, and the old man, unable to help himself, was drowned. Job managed to swim about the house, and fortunately his cries were heard by a man and his wife, who lodged in the house, and were asleep upstairs; they immediately ran to his assistance, but found themselves unable to open the chamber door; with their feet, however, they managed to force out one of the panels, and through a small aperture of only five inch square, pulled Job by the head and shoulders. The Holmfirth mill sustained very serious damage. On the opposite side stood the Wesleyan chapel, with part of the grave-yard washed away. Although the chapel stood very firm, the earth was washed away to the depth of several feet very near one corner. The chapel was flooded to within a foot of the tops of the pews. The preachers' houses were elevated a few yards higher up, but the cellars were filled, and, terror-stricken by the awful calamity, the Rev. B. Firth, and the Rev. T. Garbut, with their wives and children, ran out of their houses in their night dresses, and sought shelter on the hill side. Several strange sights were presented in the grave-yard, and perhaps the most singular was that occasioned by the whirling flood having scooped out the slumbering occupant of one of the graves, leaving a yawning gulph. To the left, were some extensive blue dye works, the destruction of these premises was most complete. A little above the mill, and between that building and a stable, stood two small cottages; one occupied by Sidney Hartley and his family, and the other by Richard Shackleton and his family. Both these families, with the exception of three, were swept away with the cot-

1852—FEB.

tages. Victoria bridge was dismantled. On the right hand side, over the bridge, was a new row of shops, built in the modern style, every one of which was flooded. The loss sustained by the various occupants was great. Several of the houses lower down the stream were injured, but not to any considerable extent. The gas works suffered damage by some of the mains being washed up; and the county bridge, leading to the railway station, was greatly damaged, and the battlements destroyed. After leaving Holmfirth, the Holme runs parallel with, and at a short distance from, the Huddersfield and Holmfirth road. The fields immediately beyond the bridge were strewn with wood, hay, and other articles. At Mytholm bridge mill, the dyehouse suffered severely, ful-ling stocks were injured, and the machinery broken. At Smithy-place, (a hamlet about two miles north east of Holmfirth) the water rose to a fearful height, and but for alarms which were made, the loss of life must have been great. Whole families had to leave their beds and betake themselves out of the way of the flood, with no other covering than what they slept in; and the shrieks and cries of children for their parents, and parents for their children, were heart-rending in the extreme. The damage done to the mill, to the bridge, and to several cottages in this place was great. From Honley to Armitage-bridge, the wreck was fearful, the front and back walls of St. Paul's church, at the latter place being completely destroyed. Two children were found dead above the Golden Fleece Inn, one of them on the water side, and the other had been washed into a tree near the place. They were both conveyed to the Golden Fleece Inn, Park-gate. A woman was found dead and naked in a field near Armitage-fold. There was much injury done by the flood to the mill belonging to Messrs. J. and T. C. Wrigley, Dungeon, situate a little south of Lockwood viaducts. The flags of the floors in the lower rooms of the mill were removed out of their places; thirty bags of wool were flooded from the premises, along with a large quantity of cop-  
ins, waste, and other goods; upwards of one hundred pieces of cloth were damaged, and part of the strong iron tentering broken down, and a valuable machine completely destroyed. Beyond this part there was some slight damage done, but which it is unnecessary to detail. From a statement published soon after the occurrence, it appeared that so far as could be ascertained 77 lives had been lost, 38 of them being adults, and 39 children; 26 were married, 12 un-married, and 12 children were left

1852.—FEB.

destitute. The estimated damage, and summary of property destroyed was as follows :—*Buildings destroyed* :—4 mills, 10 dyehouses, 3 stoves, 27 cottages, 7 tradesmen's houses, 7 shops, 7 bridges, 10 warehouses, 8 barns and stables. *Buildings seriously injured* :—5 dyehouses and stock, 17 mills, 3 stoves, 129 cottages, 7 tradesmen's houses, 44 large shops, 11 public houses, 5 bridges, one county bridge, 200 acres of land, 4 warehouses, 13 barns, 3 places of worship, and 2 iron foundries. *Hands thrown out of employment* :—Adults, 4,896, children, 2,142, total, 7,038. The total loss of property was estimated at £250,000. The coroners jury who viewed the bodies of the persons drowned by the flood, in addition to returning the usual verdict of *found drowned*, made a statement to the effect, that the Holme Reservoir Commissioners had been guilty of great and culpable negligence, in allowing the reservoir to remain for several years in a dangerous state, with a full knowledge thereof, and that had they been in the position of a private individual or firm, they would certainly have subjected themselves to a verdict of manslaughter. Handsome subscriptions were raised for the sufferers in various parts of the country, amounting altogether to £68,000. A large surplus of the fund was left, after relieving the sufferers, which was devoted towards the erection of five alms houses, the first stone was laid in 1856. A brass plate bore the following inscription :—

"The foundation stone of the Holmfirth monumental alms houses, erected to commemorate the great flood, caused by the bursting of the Bilberry reservoir, on the 5th of Feb., 1852, (by which upwards of eighty lives were lost); and also the munificent liberality of the British public, was laid by the Provincial Grand Lodge of Freemason's of West Yorkshire, on Monday, the 21st of April, 1856, A.M., 5856."

Feb. 20th. Government defeated in the Commons, on Lord Palmerston's amendment on the militia bill, by a majority of eleven.—21st. The Russell ministry resigned.

22nd. The Earl of Derby succeeded in forming a cabinet. This gave rise to a renewal of the free trade agitation at Manchester and other places. A great free trade meeting was held at Leeds on the 4th of March, in a large wooden building erected for a circus in Boar-lane, Sir George Goodman in the chair. The principal speakers were Alderman Carbutt, Richard Cobden, Esq., M.P., Edward Baines, Esq., and others.—26th. At her Majesty's Levee this day, the well merited honour of knighthood was conferred on George Goodman, Esq., mayor of Leeds.

## 1852 — MARCH

March 15th. At this time party feeling was carried to such an excess amongst the members of the Wesleyan body (conference party and reformers) at Yeadon, as to lead to tumultuous gatherings of the people in the village. A series of attacks had been made on the house of the Rev. Mr. Shrewsbury, which induced that gentleman to leave Yeadon. After Mr. Shrewsbury had left the chapel house, the conference party determined to remove the furniture, notwithstanding that ten out of fifteen of the trustees, had made it over to the reformers. On the 15th of March, while some persons were so engaged, a crowd of from 1,500 to 2,000 people assembled, locked the gates, assaulted some of the persons engaged in placing the furniture on the waggon, uttered all sorts of cries, threw stones and other missiles at the conference party, and otherwise acted in such a tumultuous and riotous manner as to prevent the removal on that day. Similar disturbances took place on other days, and eventually several persons were brought before the West-Riding Justices at the Leeds Court-house, when the parties charged were bound over to keep the peace, and others committed to York on charges of riot, &c. A compromise was subsequently made. The reformers retained possession of the chapel, and the conference party of the house adjoining. On Sunday the 13th of March in the following year (1853,) prayer meetings were being held by the reformers in the chapel, and by the conference party in the house, when a crowd assembled round the latter place; became very excited, and threw stones through the windows and at the door. Thomas Mann, or some one in the house, in order to frighten away the crowd, fired a gun and severely wounded Hiram Yeadon. Mann was committed to York, along with a person named Sykes. They were both convicted, and ordered to be imprisoned one month. — 20th. In consequence of Sir George Goodman having allowed himself to be put in nomination at the forthcoming Leeds election, a special meeting of the council was held this day, when his resignation of the office of mayor was accepted, and Mr. Alderman Shaw elected in his place.

April 3rd. As some workmen in the employ of Messrs. Longley, of Wortley, near Leeds, were digging clay for the purpose of making bricks, they discovered at the depth of ten feet, in a dark blue sedimentary clay, almost approaching mud, a large number of bones, which Mr. Denny, of the Leeds Philosophical Society found to be the remains of the great Northern Hippopotamus, (*Hippopotamus Major*.) He secured them for the Society's Museum, and they are un-

1852.—APRIL.

questionably the most valuable series of British Hippopotamic remains in the kingdom. Amongst the bones exhumed were several belonging to the Elephant, (*Elephas Primigenius*,) and the Urus, (*Bos Primigenius*.) Mr. Denny states that the remains of the Hippopotamus indicate the quadrupeds to have been of different ages, two of them had been adult individuals, one considerably larger than the other, and one a young animal, and that from the situation in which they were found, it is highly probable that the animals had lived and died in the immediate vicinity, and were subsequently drifted, together with fragments of trees, to the bottom or lower part of a swamp.

Guardians of the Poor for the township of Leeds, elected April 5th, 1852 :—

Those in brackets were elected.

EAST, [William Clarke, George Lumb]——KIRKGATE, [Chas. Crabtree, 264, Seth Joy, 260.] Edmund Stead, 164, Benjamin Harral, 155. ———MILL-HILL, [William Booth, John Kighley Clapham, John Patrick.]——NORTH, [Richard Stead, 248, Richard Harrison Singleton, 238.] Joseph Linsley, 209, Joseph Broadhead, 209 ———NORTH-EAST, [John Longley, Edward Lawson]——NORTH-WEST, [William Whitfield, Thomas Royston.]——SOUTH, [Hutchinson Gresham, James Smith.]——WEST, [Peter Law Atkinson, Dennis Lee, Thomas Newsam.]

Mr. Thomas Newsam, was elected chairman.

April 19th. At a Board meeting of the Leeds General Infirmary, the treasurer reported that he had received £8,600, the net amount of a legacy left to the charity, by the late Thomas Clapham, Esq., of Stackhouse.

25th. At a meeting of the Leeds town council held this day, a resolution, authorizing the purchase of the Leeds waterworks was passed by twenty two against sixteen. This resolution also gave authority to co-operate with the directors of the waterworks company, in obtaining parliamentary sanction to a bill then in the House of Commons, for legalising the past and future acts of the company in taking water from the river Wharfe, near Harewood. The council agreed to purchase the shares at par price, and make up to the holders of shares their past dividends to six per cent. On the 17th of November following, at a special meeting of the council, a motion was carried to the effect “That the corporate common seal of the borough of Leeds be affixed to the transfer of all the undertaking, estates, property, and effects of the Leeds waterworks company, from the said company to the mayor, aldermen, and burgesses of the said



1852.—APRIL.

borough, under, and by virtue of "The Leeds Waterworks Wharfe supply,) Act, 1852." The amount due to the shareholders of the waterworks company was £165,206 9s. 6d. and the liabilities of the company £62,211 additional, making the total amount of the purchase money £227,417 9s. 6d.

May 8th. The first people's concert under the direction of the Leeds Recreation Society, took place this day.

June 9th. The house of Commons unanimously passed a resolution, placing in custody Mr. Feargus O'Connor, one of the members for Nottingham. Mr. O'Connor, from his very strange conduct in the house, and out of doors, was clearly suffering from complete mental derangement. The unfortunate gentleman was subsequently placed in a lunatic asylum, where he died.—19th. On the evening of this day, for the first time, two bands engaged by the Leeds Recreation Society played on Woodhouse moor. The bands continued to play on Monday and Saturday evenings, in favourable weather, during the summer months.

26th. An official inquiry into the disputed election of Poor-law Guardians, was commenced this day, and occupied several days at the Industrial Schools, Burmantofts, by H. B. Farnall, Esq., the poor-law inspector for the district. The complaint was, that the elections of Mr. Richard Stead, and Mr. Richard Harrison Singleton, for the North ward, and of Mr. Seth Joy, and Mr. Charles Crabtree, for the Kirkgate ward, were effected by means of forged and altered voting papers, and the loss or abstraction of others. The inspector laid his report before the poor-law board, when that body by a letter from the secretary, dated 1st of October, 1852, refused to adopt any steps with reference to the elections, but expressed an opinion that they had been conducted in a highly improper and irregular manner.

July 9th. LEEDS ELECTION.—On the 1st of July parliament was dissolved. A public meeting of the liberal electors of Leeds had taken place on the 1st of March, previously, when J. G. Marshall, Esq. M.P., Sir George Goodman, and Francis Carbutt, Esq. were severally proposed and seconded as fit to represent the borough. The two former gentlemen received the largest show of hands. Mr. Marshall subsequently declined to stand on the ground of ill health. Matthew Talbot Baines, Esq., was brought out on the 16th of March, as a colleague of Sir George Goodman. On the 26th of April, the conservative electors met at Fleischman's Hotel, and voted an address to William Beckett, Esq. M.P., and passed resolutions asking that gentleman to allow him-



1852.—JULY.

self to be nominated. He however declined, and the party then brought out Robert Hall, Esq., and Thomas Sidney, Esq. The nomination took place on Woodhouse moor, at eleven o'clock on the 8th of July. when James Garth Marshall, Esq., proposed, and Thomas William Tottie, Esq., seconded the nomination of the Rt. Hon. M. T. Baines, Esq. Mr. Joseph Cliff, proposed, and Mr Edward Baines, seconded Sir George Goodman. Mr. Thomas Fountain, proposed, and Mr John Tempest, seconded Robert Hall, Esq. Mr. Joseph Mason Tennant, proposed, and Mr. John Woodhead, seconded Thomas Sidney, Esq., alderman of London. After Mr. Baines, Mr. Goodman, and Mr. Wheelhouse, (on behalf of Mr. Hall,) and Mr. Tennant, (for Mr. Sidney,) had addressed the meeting, a show of hands was taken, which the mayor declared to be in favour of Mr. Baines and Sir G. Goodman. A poll was demanded on behalf of Mr. Hall, and Mr. Sidney. The poll took place on the following day, and stood at its close as follows :—

<i>Sir George Goodman,</i>	... ..	(L)	2,344.
<i>The Rt. Hon. M. T Baines,</i>	... ..	(L)	2,311.
Robert Hall, Esq. ... ..	... ..	(C)	1,132.
Thomas Sidney, Esq. ... ..	... ..	(C)	1,089.

The mayor, (J. H. Shaw, Esq.,) declared the two former candidates to be duly elected.

10th. WEST-RIDING ELECTION.—At Wakefield, this day, took place the nomination of candidates for the West-riding. W. M. E. Milner, Esq., proposed, and Francis Carbutt, Esq., seconded the nomination of Richard Cobden, Esq. M.P. The Hon. E. Lascelles, M.P., proposed, and John Rand, Esq., seconded the nomination of Edmund Denison, Esq. No other candidates being proposed, the two gentlemen nominated were declared to be duly elected.

July. The construction of the main sewers in many of the principal streets of Leeds at this time, and for a long time afterwards, was of great inconvenience to the public yet it was borne with exemplary patience, from a conviction that the great undertaking when completed, would be of immense good in making the town sufficiently drained. The subject of the drainage of the borough was before the town council for eleven years. The first report on the subject was made by Captain Vetch, R.E., and is dated December 31st, 1842. The second report for draining a district at the west end of Leeds only, by the then borough surveyor, Mr. Thomas Walker, and dated 1844. The third report was by

1852.—JULY.

J. W. Leather, Esq. C.E., dated Feb. 10th, 1845. The fourth was that of Thomas Wicksteed, Esq. C.E., dated Nov. 20th, 1848; and the fifth was from J. W. Leather, Esq. C.E., dated Dec. 12th, 1848. Subsequently, a deputation of the Leeds town council, after having visited London, Birmingham, Manchester, and Liverpool, published a report on the advantages of using glazed earthenware tubes for sewers. The cost of sewerage the public streets and thoroughfares in the three townships of Leeds, Hunslet, and Holbeck, was estimated at £80,000. J. W. Leather, Esq. was appointed engineer. The main sewers extend over thirty five miles, and the cost has been £130,000.

The sewerage works were of great interest to the geologist, indicating down the whole extent of Hunslet-lane, that the former course of the river Aire was much more to the south than at present; that it was probably of greater width, and conveyed the vast torrent of water which flowed from the more mountainous districts of the country, (before it was diverted into various channels by the hand of man,) together with the animals and trees, which happened to impede its progress, or were washed from its banks. This was satisfactorily shown by the bones of deer, oxen, &c., which were from time to time exhumed, associated with alluvial, gravel, boulders, and sand. During the month of July, in prosecuting the excavations through Wilson-street, and nearly opposite Christ church, the workmen in the employ of Mr. Buxton, contractor, discovered at the depth of twenty feet, in a bed of sedimentary clay, a very fine horn of the *red deer*, upwards of three feet in length, and weighing 8½lbs, in a very high state of preservation. Above the horn was the trunk of an oak tree, twenty two feet in length, and fifty two inches in circumference, perfectly hard and black, and in all probability coeval with the horn. The remains of this animal, which, although considerably larger than those of the red deer of the present day, presents no other distinguishable character than size, occurs in various parts of Britain, associated with those of the giant deer, or Irish elk, short horned ox, &c., and is the only species of quadruped which appears to have survived those influences which caused the extinction of its more gigantic contemporaries. Mr. Buxton kindly presented this interesting relic to the Museum of the Leeds Philosophical and Literary Society.

On Sunday morning the 1st of August, an accident attended with very serious consequences to many persons,

1852.—Aug.

occurred on the road midway between Burley and Ilkley, by the overturning of an omnibus, heavily laden with passengers from the Arthington station. Samuel Morrel, the driver of the omnibus when near the road leading to Mount Stead, stopped and dismounted to adjust some part of the harness which had become disarranged or broken. While he was doing this, another omnibus driven by James Walker, which had hitherto been behind, passed before him. Morrel shortly after resumed his place on the box, and drove forward at a rapid pace. He soon came up to his competitor, and endeavoured to pass him, but ere he had got entirely clear of the first horse of Walker's omnibus, the near hind wheel of his own came off, and the vehicle was overturned; the whole of the passengers, forty seven in number, being precipitated with great violence among the horses of Walker's omnibus. The shrieks and cries which arose at the moment were dreadful. Some were trampled upon by the frightened and unmanageable horses, some were lying bleeding, crushed beneath the fallen vehicle, and some were being lacerated beneath the wheels of the other omnibus. The scene resembled a battle field in miniature, in the number of the wounded and apparently dying persons that strewed the ground. Seven or eight of the passengers were very seriously injured. Many more escaped with slight contusions and bruises. The greatest sufferers were Mrs. Sarah Firth, Bramley, Mr. Sowry, pawnbroker, Leeds, Mr. Scholefield, boot and shoe maker, Central Market, Leeds, Mr. Francis Lowe, at Messrs. Lupton, and Co., Leeds, Mr. Samuel Strickland, clerk to the Leeds Northern railway company, Thomas Johnson, woolsorter, Ilkley, and Mr. Fletcher, commercial traveller. Great blame attached to the driver of the omnibus which lost its wheel. Mrs. Sarah Firth died from the injuries she received. The coroners jury which sat upon the deceased, returned a verdict of manslaughter against the driver, together with a censure on the officials of the Leeds Northern Railway company, "for the reckless and dangerous way in which omnibuses have been allowed to load, especially on a Sunday."——10th. The foundation stone of the church of St. John the baptist, New Wortley, Leeds, was laid by the Rev. W. F. Hook, D.D., vicar of Leeds. The funds for the erection of the church were raised by the contributions of the inhabitants and others, aided by a donation of £1,000 given through the vicar by an unknown benefactor, and by grants from her Majesty's Commissioners for the building of churches, and the church building society. The cost was

1852.—Aug.

about £3,500. It is built in the style of architecture known as the geometrical decorated, or second pointed, and consists of nave, chancel, and side aisles, with south transept, the tower, surmounted by a spire, being placed on the north side. The church has accommodation for 700 persons, the sittings being entirely free. Messrs. Dobson and Chorley, of Leeds, were the architects. The church was consecrated by Dr. Longley, then Bishop of Ripon, on the 17th Nov., 1853. The district of New Wortley was constituted a separate parish for ecclesiastical purposes under Sir Robert Peel's act in 1851, being endowed with an income of £150 per annum, one half of which was provided for by the trustees of the late Mrs. Matthewman. The parish has subsequently become a vicarage, under the provisions of the Leeds Vicarage and Lord Blandford's acts. The Rev. A. J. Brameld is vicar.

20th. The statue of Sir Robert Peel, sculptured by Behnes, was inaugurated at Leeds, at twelve o'clock at noon this day, in the presence of an immense assemblage of people, said to be between 30,000 to 40,000. The statue was placed exactly opposite the newly erected and handsome Unitarian chapel, which fronts into Park-row. The procession of the committee, the invited guests, the town council, headed by the mayor wearing his chain of office, the magistrates, &c., left the Court-house at twelve o'clock, and on arriving at the statue, took up their places within a railed area adjoining. A raised platform, boxed in, was prepared for the speakers and invited guests, and on their appearance headed by William Beckett, Esq., they were loudly cheered by the assemblage. The band of the Yorkshire Hussars, and a portion of the artillery band, were placed on the ground with a party of vocal performers. Several pieces of ordnance were arranged along the side of the river, near Wellington bridge. A signal flag was fixed at the top of the Court-house, and at the sound of a trumpet it was unfurled, when a discharge of artillery took place, and the statue was uncovered, amidst the acclamations of the thousands of spectators. William Beckett, Esq. then delivered an address and presented the statue to the mayor, aldermen, and burgesses of the borough of Leeds, in the name of the subscribers, with a copy of the following resolutions written on parchment :—

“ At a special meeting of the committee appointed to manage the erection and inauguration of the statue of the late Sir Robert Peel,

1852.—Aug.

held on the 13th day of August, 1852, William Beckett, Esq. in the chair. Resolved unanimously:—

That with a view to the presentation in perpetuity of the public statue of the late Right Hon. Sir Robert Peel, Bart., now in course of erection on a site appurtenant to the Court-house, in Park-row, in Leeds, it is desirable to vest the statue together with the pedestal, in the mayor, aldermen, and burgesses of the borough of Leeds, in the assurance that the same will be regarded and preserved by that body as trustees for the public, in a suitable manner. That therefore on the occasion of the inauguration of the statue on the 20th of the present month of August, Wm. Beckett, Esq. as the chairman, and in the name of the committee and subscribers, be requested formally to present and deliver the statue and pedestal into the charge of the corporate body, through the hands of his worship the mayor, together with a copy of these resolutions signed by the chairman. By virtue and in compliance with the preceding resolutions, I hereby in the name and on behalf of the subscribers and committee, accordingly, transfer to the hands of the mayor, aldermen, and burgesses of the borough of Leeds the above mentioned statue of the late Sir Robert Peel, Bart., with the pedestal thereof, as trustees for the public.

WILLIAM BECKETT, Chairman.

The figure is eight feet six inches in height, and stands upon a pedestal of Scotch granite, eleven feet six inches high. It represents Sir Robert in his usual attitude when addressing the House of Commons, with a scroll of paper in his right hand, and the frock of his coat thrown back by his left, which rests upon his hip. The figure is in bronze, and was cast by Mr. F. Robinson of the statue Foundry, Pimlico, London, and presents the novelty of being cast altogether, instead of in parts as is usually the case. The weight of it is two tons, and the entire weight of the pedestal and statue together is  $29\frac{1}{2}$  tons. The cost of the statue and pedestal was 1,500 guineas, which was raised by subscription in Leeds amongst 6,000 subscribers varying from £100 to one penny.——28th. A labouring man named Abraham Thresh, aged 48, residing in Long Close-lane, Bank, Leeds, received a blow over the head with a manure grip, or fork, inflicted by his master David Williamson, of the Dog and Gun Inn, York-road. He received such injury as to cause his death. Williamson was committed to York on a charge of manslaughter, found guilty, but recommended to mercy. He was ordered to be imprisoned one week.

30th. A most atrocious outrage, accompanied with extensive robbery was perpetrated at Bolton Grange, the residence of Charles Clough, Esq., solicitor, and clerk to the Bradford county court. About a quarter past nine in the evening,

1852.—Aug.

seven men whose faces were blackened and covered with masks, and armed with pistols and bludgeons, entered the kitchen at Bolton Grange, and enquired "where is the master." The maid servants in the kitchen were alarmed at the sight of the men, and raised an alarm. The fellows using violent threats ordered the women to remain silent. Mr. Clough hearing the noise thought it proceeded from the children's bed room, and ran up stairs, where however he found them asleep. He then proceeded to the head of the staircase, and called out to know what was the matter. A man's voice replied "you are wanted down here sir." Mr. Clough ran down stairs, and as he reached the bottom step he was struck on the head with a bludgeon, and dashed senseless against the kitchen wall. Four of the fellows then seized him and robbed him of his gold watch, two five pound notes, three sovereigns and some silver. In the meantime Mrs. Clough and the servants had been secured, and driven into one corner of the kitchen, where one of the fellows stood guard over them with a brace of pistols, presented, and threatening death to any that stirred. Behind him stood two others also armed, who kept watch about the kitchen door. The remaining four forced Mr. Clough upstairs to his bed-room, where they demanded the keys of his plate chest, secretary, drawers, &c. He was then thrown upon the bed, bleeding most profusely, and roughly commanded to lie with his face downwards. Mr. Clough ventured to turn his head on one side, and he immediately received a violent blow with a bludgeon. The robbers removed a large variety of silver articles from the plate chest, such as forks, spoons, jugs, &c., which they took away. When they had completed the plunder of the chest Mr. Clough was ordered to rise from the bed and descend to the kitchen again, where Mrs. Clough's watch was taken from her, and then the whole household, master, mistress, and servants, (including the groom who had been seized as he entered the house) were escorted by the gang into the cellar, where they were left by the robbers, who took care to carry off with them some bottles of wine and spirits, and to lock the cellar door after them. After some time the party in the cellar hearing all quiet, managed to force the door, when they found that the robbers had got safely off with their valuable booty worth about £300. Every effort was made to discover the robbers, but without success for some time, although a reward of £100 was offered for the appre-

1852.—SEPT.

hension and conviction of any of them. At the winter gaol delivery at York, Patrick Redmond, John Kelly, and Catherine Gorman were tried for being concerned in the robbery, &c. The two former were sentenced to death, which was commuted to transportation for life, and the latter was sentenced to six months imprisonment with hard labour.

Sept. 14th. A most successful matrimonial hoax was played off at the Bull and Mouth Hotel, Leeds, upon a Mr. Winter, who had shortly before advertised for a wife in the London papers. One or two wags thinking to have a joke at the expense of the advertiser, forwarded to his published address a delicate and perfumed *billet doux*, purporting to have been written by a Miss Bailey. Mr. Winter in the simplicity of his heart replied, Miss Bailey answered, and thus a correspondence satisfactory to both parties resulted eventually in a meeting on the 14th of September, at the hotel above mentioned, when Miss Bailey would explain her worldly affairs more fully, and introduce Mr. Winter to her relatives. A fair young gentleman whose face was not encumbered with hirsute superfluities was dressed for the occasion, and acted the part of Miss Bailey with admirable tact. Mr. Winter was true to his appointment, and was ushered into the room to Miss Bailey. After a while, and when matters had in some measure being satisfactorily arranged, Miss Bailey had her relatives introduced; first came her affectionate brother, then followed in rapid succession her uncles, cousins, and all her other male relatives. With the first half dozen the lover shook hands with vigorous cordiality; but when they poured upon him in one unbroken tide, he found that he was hoaxed to his hearts content. His only means of escape from Miss Bailey's very many relatives was to treat them to wine and drink, which he did with right good nature, after which he was suffered to escape.——14th. Sir J. W. Ramsden, Bart., having this day completed his majority, and entered on the proprietorship of the manor of Huddersfield, the day was ushered in with merry peals from the parish church bells, and flags fluttered from all the public buildings of the town. In consequence of its being the Huddersfield market day, the festivities were postponed until the day following, when such rejoicing took place as will long be remembered by the people of Huddersfield. The greater part of the day was kept as a general holiday in the town.

25th. In making the sewerage excavations in Briggate, Leeds, the workmen had to cut through a bed of inferior



1852.—SRPT.

coal, about two feet in thickness (probably the Low moor bed) when fragments of the lower portion of a large stem, with the roots of *stigmara ficoides* were thrown up. It was so fractured from the effects of the powder as to render its restoration impossible, but sufficient was preserved to show its original magnitude, as the diameter of the principal branch of the root, where it proceeds from the stem was above one foot. Some of the fragments were sent to the Philosophical-hall.——28th. The first stone of St. Jude's church, Pottery-field, Leeds, was laid by the Rev. Dr. Hook. It is a neat structure, erected at a cost of £3,000, and is a perpetual curacy valued at £150, in the alternate patronage of the crown, and the Bishop of Ripon. A parsonage house was erected in 1857. It was consecrated by the Bishop of Ripon, on the 26th of October, in the following year, (1853.) The Rev. T. R. Dent, is the vicar.——29th. The first stone of the church of St. Michael's, Buslingthorpe, Leeds, was laid by John Gott, Esq. It was consecrated by the Bishop of Ripon, April 17th, 1854. It is a plain, but neat and substantial structure, in the early decorated style, and cost £1,700, raised from public subscriptions and grants from the church commissioners. It was endowed by £500 from the Matthewman fund, and contains from 600 to 700 sittings, the whole of which are virtually free. It is a perpetual curacy, valued at £150, in the patronage of five trustees. The Rev. W. T. Dixon, M.A. is Incumbent.——30th. The Leeds town council granted £600 to the scavenging and nuisance committee to defray the cost of removing nuisances and cleansing the borough.

Oct. 9th. The Duchess of Kent and party paid a visit of several days to Doncaster.——16th. Louis Napoleon made a tour through the five southern provinces of France. He was proclaimed on the 6th of November following, Emperor of the French, under the title of Napoleon III.

During this month as the quarrymen employed in the limekilns behind the house of Mr. John Pullen, of the Union Inn, on Thistle hill, near Knaresbro', were at work upon a stratum of limestone about twenty seven feet below the surface of the field, they came upon a considerable accumulation of large water worn boulders, mixed with fine clay. On removing these they discovered the skeletons of six or seven human beings, that had been covered by the stones, and which were also embedded in fine alluvial clay. The skulls were of various dimensions, and the teeth in some

1852.—Oct.

of them were in perfect preservation. One pair of jaws was of rather a diminutive size ; the teeth which were small, white and regular, seemed to be relics of a young adult female. No traces of armour were found near the skeletons. The great depth at which the bones were found is against the supposition that the place was a formal burial ground. It is supposed they were the victims of a foul tragedy, for the right upper jaw of one of the skulls was broken, evidently with a blow. Besides Thistle hill, and many a mile around was formerly included in the wild forest of Knaresbro', the resort and refuge of outlaws and desperate men, who themselves dwelt in dens and caves of the earth. An inspection of the place where the bones were lying, showed that it was a natural cavern in the limestone rock about seven feet wide, five feet high, and of considerable length ; and also that it communicated with the surface above by an irregular perpendicular fissure just wide enough to allow a full grown man to pass. Among the bones were found the skull of a dog, and the jawbone of an ox.

## LEEDS MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS, NOVEMBER 1ST, 1852.

The names in brackets were elected.

MILL-HILL, [Anthony Titley, L, 312, John Marshall, L, 309,] William Ingham, C, 262, John Smith, C, 253. — WEST, [George Brook, L, 311, John Arhill, R, 220,] Thomas Tilney, C, 83. — NORTH-WEST, [G. J. Crowther, L,] — NORTH, [William Mawson, L,] — NORTH-EAST, [Joseph Broadhead, L, 318,] Charles Rawson, C, 226. — EAST, [John Wainman, L,] — KIRKGATE, [Samuel Smith C, 1-5,] Thomas Scholey, L, 184. — SOUTH, [Hutchinson Gresham, L,] — HUNSLY, [Enoch Blackburne, L, 919,] Thomas Jones, R, 438. — HOLBECK, [John Whitehead, L, 940, Henry Slater, L, 902,] John Holmes, R, 889, John Patterson, R, 840 — BRAMLEY, [John Lupton, L, and Matthew Moss, L,] — HEADINGLEY, [Robert White, C, 89,] Sellers, L, 57.

Nov. 9th. John Hope Shaw, Esq., elected mayor.

August 25th. West ward, *vice* Mr. Kelsall, elected ald. on the 20th of August, in the place of Jonathan Dickinson, [Joseph Lambert, L, 215,] Joseph Mason Tennant, C, 122.

Nov. 1st. James Searles the Leeds pedestrian, completed in Liverpool the herculean task of walking 2,000 miles in as many consecutive half hours. He walked the last mile in seven minutes and a half. The task occupied six weeks. In order to support the physical strength and energy necessary to its accomplishment, the pedestrian subsisted principally on animal food, of which he ate very largely. — 6th. A

1852.—Nov

very destructive fire occurred on the premises of the York and North Midland Railway company, adjoining the west side of the Humber docks at Hull, which totally destroyed the whole range of buildings a hundred yards in length, together with a very large amount of property stored therein.

About four o'clock on the morning of the 9th of November, a visible shock of an earthquake was felt at Liverpool, Manchester, Chester, Shrewsbury, North Wales, &c. In some places the earth rocked in a violent manner for about thirty seconds, and the motion was accompanied by a low moaning noise; this was succeeded after an interval of a few seconds, by a violent tremor, which lasted about thirty seconds more. The rocking motion appeared to proceed from south west to north east. It was accompanied by a violent shaking of doors, windows, furniture, &c.

17th. The first stone of the Leeds and Yorkshire assurance companies offices, at the junction of Albion-street, and Commercial-street, was laid by C. G. Maclea, Esq., chairman of the company, in the presence of the directors, trustees and others, (See *Annals*, page 315.)

18th. *State funeral of the Duke of Wellington*.—No event in modern times created such immense lamentation in England, as the death of His Grace the Duke of Wellington, which took place at Walmer Castle, on the 14th of September, 1852. A public funeral of the Duke was solemnized with great pomp on Thursday, the 18th day of November following. He was interred with honours truly national, which were conducted by the government—sanctioned by the legislature—partaken in by the Queen herself, and her husband—by all the high officers of State, the Church, the Army, the Navy, and the representatives of European Powers, and in fact by every class of the community. The day was marked by a general suspension of business in all the principal towns in the kingdom. At Leeds the civic and military authorities did honour to the illustrious Duke, by walking in procession from the Court-house to the parish church, where a special service adapted for the occasion was celebrated, and an eloquent and impressive sermon was preached by the Rev. Dr. Hook, who took his text from the 2nd of Chronicles, 32nd chapter, and 33rd verse. Thousands of people assembled in the vicinity of the Court-house, and parish church, as well as the different streets through which the procession had to pass. The following was the order of procession :—

1852.—Nov.

Four Police Constables,  
 The Royal Artillery Band,  
 An escort of 80 of the Royal Horse Artillery,  
 Police——45 of the 6th Enniskillen Dragoons,——Police,  
 Police Inspectors,  
 The Chief Constable and Superintendent.  
 The Mace Bearer,  
 The Mayor with his Insignia of Office,  
 Police,——The Aldermen and Borough Justices,——Police,  
 The Town Clerk, and Clerk to the Magistrates, and other officials  
 of the Borough,  
 Police,——200 of the 21st Infantry,——Police,  
 The Yorkshire Hussar Band, and the Yorkshire Hussars.

As the procession proceeded through the streets, the artillery band played the "Dead March in Saul." Every corner of the parish church was occupied, and thousands were unable to gain admission. Nearly the whole of the congregation were attired in mourning.

Dec. 8th. The annual soiree of the Leeds Mechanics' Institute was held in the Music-hall, under the distinguished presidency of the Rt. Hon. Lord John Russell, who delivered a most eloquent speech. The meeting was also honoured by the presence, and addressed by the Rt. Hon. M. T. Baines, M.P., Robert Hall, Esq., Henry Cole, Esq. C.B. Professor Phillips, F.R.S., the Rt. Hon. Lord Beaumont, the Rt. Hon. and very Rev. the Dean of Ripon, the Rev. Charles Wicksteed, Henry Pease, Esq., Darlington, George Cruikshank, Esq., Sir George Goodman, and E. Baines, Esq. In the forenoon of the following day at the Music-hall, the mayor in the presence of a very large audience, presented in the name of the town council, an address to Lord John Russell, expressive of respect, confidence, and admiration, in his conduct as a statesman, &c. As a memorial of his lordship's visit to Leeds, Lady Russell presented to the Institute (Jan. 3rd, 1853,) through M. T. Baines, Esq., an engraving, which is a most faithful and striking likeness of the noble lord. His lordship is represented in the attitude of addressing the House of Commons, with his right hand on his breast, and his left resting upon some papers near him. The painter is Mr. T. Cerrick, and the engraver Mr. S. Bellin.

9th. The members of the Leeds town council gave a dinner at the White Horse Hotel, to J. H. Shaw, Esq., mayor. Sir George Goodman, Kt., M.P., presided. On the same day a meeting convened by the mayor, was held at the Court-house, to consider the propriety of originating a subscrip-

1852.—DEC.

tion for the erection of some memorial to the late Duke of Wellington. It was decided to erect a bronze statue at an expense not exceeding £2,000.——16th. The ministry of the Earl of Derby was defeated by a majority of nineteen, on the House Tax, proposed in the Chancellor of the Exchequer's Budget.——About one o'clock in the afternoon of the 21st of December, an explosion took place in the Ellescar Low Colliery, Hemingfield, near Barnsley, the property of Earl Fitzwilliam. 130 men and boys were in the pit at the time, five of whom lost their lives. The explosion was supposed to have been caused by some of the men having removed the tops from their safety lamps, and worked with the naked flame.——25th. A dreadful hurricane burst forth on the eastern coast on Christmas night, doing immense damage to property. By shipwrecks alone more than 100 lives were lost. In point of severity and for extent of havoc, this hurricane had not been equalled since that of 1839.——29th. The guardians of the poor of the township of Leeds voted a congratulatory address to M. T. Baines, Esq. M.P., on his reappointment to the office of the poor law board. This appointment caused a vacancy in the representation of Leeds. On Monday the 3rd of January, 1853, in the coloured Cloth-hall yard, he was re-elected without opposition. John Hope Shaw, Esq., mayor, was the returning officer. Darnton Lupton, Esq., proposed, and John Wilkinson, Esq., seconded his nomination, and no other candidates being proposed he was declared duly elected.

30th. The Town-hall committee of the Leeds town council met to decide upon the plans, for which premiums of £200, £100, and £50, should be awarded. The committee in their deliberation had the benefit of the opinion of Sir Charles Barry, the eminent architect employed in constructing the two Houses of Parliament. There were altogether sixteen sets of plans sent in by that number of competitors. After a full consideration the committee determined to award the first premium for plans to Mr. Cuthbert Brodrick, architect of Hull, a young man, formerly a pupil of Messrs. Lockwood and Mawson, of Bradford, who carried off the second prize. The third premium was awarded to Messrs. Young and Lovatt, of Wolverhampton. The committee appointed Mr. Broderick to be the architect of the building.

1853. Jan. 8th. Thomas Wilkinson, a youth aged 19, who formerly resided with his parents at Wortley, near Leeds, and who was convicted at York, in July 1851, of robbing and wounding, and sentenced to twenty years transportation,

1853.—JAN.

committed suicide in Millbank prison, London, by cutting his throat with a razor, during temporary insanity, brought on by separate confinement.——8th. Alfred Waddington, of Sheffield, was this day executed at York for having murdered his illegitimate child, twenty months old, on the 18th of August previously.——On the 15th, James Barbour, of the same place was executed for the murder of Alexander Robinson, after having made a confession of his guilt.——The scrutiny into the disputed election of poor law guardians for the North ward, at Leeds, was brought to a close on the 10th of January, having occupied altogether fifteen days. The poor law board issued a report on the scrutiny on the 5th of Feb., following, in which they stated that the evidence brought before Mr. Farnell clearly showed that various errors had occurred in the computation of the voting papers, caused by forgeries and alterations. It had also been proved by the testimony of witnesses, that certain voting papers though delivered to the proper collector, were nevertheless omitted in the calculation of votes, through some cause which the evidence had not elucidated. The result of Mr. Farnell's investigation, as reported to the board was that the numbers should have been returned thus :—Broadhead 236, Linsley 235, Stead 177, Singleton, 166 ; and therefore that Messrs. Broadhead and Linsley, instead of Messrs. Stead and Singleton, ought to have been returned as guardians elected for the North ward.

11th. A rule was granted in the Bail court before Mr. Justice Earl, calling upon Mr. Samuel Smith, of Leeds, to shew cause why a quo warranto information, should not be granted against him for exercising the office of town councillor for Kirkgate ward. It appeared that Mr. Smith at the municipal election in Nov. previously, had been declared to be duly elected by a majority of *one* over Mr. Scholey, but that subsequently it was discovered that a burgess named Gamble had voted in the North-east ward, as well as in the Kirkgate ward for Mr Smith. thereby making the numbers polled for each candidate in the Kirkgate ward to be equal. Mr. Smith in June following formally resigned his office, but was re-elected at an extraordinary election on the 8th of July.——26th. A. H. Layard, Esq., M.P. for Aylesbury, gave a lecture at the Music-hall, Leeds, on his discoveries at Nineveh, before the members of the Leeds Mechanics' and Literary Society.——29th. Died the Rev. Thomas Smith, late pastor of Nether chapel, Sheffield, and for thirty years classical tutor of Masbro' College, Rotherham.

1853.—JAN.

On Sunday the 30th of January, the Emperor Napoleon III., was married to Eugenie Montijo, Countess of Thebe, and daughter of Comte de Montijo of Spain.

Feb. 3rd. The annual soiree of the Leeds Catholic Literary Institution took place at the Music-hall, Cardinal Wiseman in the chair. The meeting was addressed by the Cardinal, Joseph Holdforth, Esq., the Rev, John Walker, the Hon. Charles Langdale, and Sir William Lawson, Bart.

9th. The Leeds town council resolved by thirty three to four, to apply to parliament to grant them powers to make and sell gas ; and at the same meeting it was also determined to petition parliament against the bill of the Leeds Old Gas Company, then before parliament, by which they were seeking for powers to enlarge their capital.——14th. From this day the museum of the Leeds Philosophical Society was opened to non-subscribers on payment of a penny each.

The justices of York appointed a governor to the gaol at a salary of £100 ; the city council objected to the salary, saying £90 was sufficient, and would not confirm the payment. The governor acting under the advice of the justices applied to the Queen's Bench, when it was decided "that the council have a concurrent power with the justices, and that if they think the salaries fixed by the justices are too high, they may refuse to confirm the orders for payment, the word "confirm" in the act of parliament meaning "approve."

16th. Lord Robert Grosvenor's bill for limiting the polling at county elections to one day, passed the House of Commons.

16th. Died, aged 73 years, Norrison Scatcherd, Esq., of Morley House, near Leeds. He was educated at Mary-le-bone, and Hipperholme, and graduated at Cambridge, was intended for the bar, but did not follow that calling. He lived in retirement all his life. He was passionately fond of music and antiquities, and made them his chief study and amusement. He was author of the History of Morley, Memoirs of Eugene Aram, &c., &c. He was a fellow of the Society of Antiquaries.——18th. Henry Dobson, a cabinet maker, residing at Wakefield, aged 27, cut the throat of a girl named Catherine Shearden, a dissolute person, living in the house of Ann Clough, generally known as "Farmer Ann," thereby causing her death. At the York assizes on the 17th of March he was tried and found guilty of murder, sentenced to death, and was executed on the 9th of April.——18th. Died, aged 79 years, Mr. Henry Schroeder, of Leeds. He was born at Bawtree, in Yorkshire ; wrote Butterworth's Minors' Life, a work that was



1853.—FEB.

once very popular, composed the old song, beginning "When first in London I arrived ; By the side of the brig that stands over the river ; If you ask where I came from I say the fell side, &c., &c." Shortly before his death he compiled the *Annals of Yorkshire*.

19th. The newspapers of this date record a very heavy snow storm, accompanied with loss of life, which had continued for nearly a week with great severity, and had been unequalled in this country for a many years. Most of the lines of railway were rendered impassable. The mail trains were blocked up, and in several instances they were not extricated for twelve or more hours, and even then bags had to be conveyed by cross roads to their destination. Scarcely a county escaped the storm, and in places where the snow had drifted its depth was enormous, such as cuttings and cross roads, to the extent of some twenty feet. The York and Scarborough line was completely blocked up. The mail train which should leave York for London at two o'clock, did not get away until eight o'clock, and even then made very slow progress. Numerous gangs of men were employed in clearing the lines. Much inconvenience was occasioned to traffic.——21st. At a special meeting of the Leeds town council an additional grant of £10,000 was made, to carry out certain alterations in the Town-hall plans.

24th. Died at her residence, Spring house, Bradford, in her 84th year, Mrs. Bacon, eminently distinguished for her many private charities, and her liberal support of religious and philanthropic objects. The deceased made over to the trustees of the Independent academy then at Idle, very valuable property at Undercliffe and Fagley. On the property at Undercliffe the present Airedale college was erected in 1833. Some years later Mrs. Bacon gave a further donation of £3,000 to the institution, which was with her sanction appropriated for the purpose of founding a professorship of moral philosophy. Amongst other donations she left by will to the British and Foreign Bible society, the London Missionary society, and the Home Missionary society, £1,000 each, and also the sum of £12,000 for the relief of aged and infirm ministers, their widows, and their unmarried daughters having reached the age of forty five years.

About one o'clock on Monday morning the 28th of February, it was discovered that the fine old parish church, (St. George's) at Doncaster was on fire. About two o'clock the roof of the nave and the greater part of the west end of the building fell in with a tremendous crash, carrying along with

1853.—FEB.

it the fine perpendicular window, considered by Rickman one of the finest in England, and only within a few months filled with stained glass, at a cost of £600, in memory of Sir William Cooke, of Wheatley-hall, near Doncaster. Over the beautiful south porch was the church library, containing many rare and valuable ecclesiastical works, including a folio Polyglot Bible in fine preservation. This part of the building burnt from first to last with great brilliancy. About a quarter past two the south side of the roof of the chancel fell through. The lower part of the structure now became ignited, and the flames were seen through the lower tier of windows, shooting up towards the belfry floor. In a short time the belfry was in a blaze. About half past two the roof of the tower fell *en masse*. The beautiful peal of eight bells weighing altogether about six tons, dropped down one after another, or at least such portions as were not melted into the burning mass beneath. The parish registers and communion plate though much burnt were rescued. Every particle of the celebrated organ was consumed, worth at least £2,000, and said to be the finest in the county. In the short space of three hours, this extensive, antique, and handsome edifice, regarded as a type of parish churches of the perpendicular style—for centuries the pride and boast of Doncaster—was totally destroyed. The total loss by the calamity was estimated at £70,000. The oldest portion of the edifice was built about the year 1070; the tower was referred to the time of Henry III., and the nave to a somewhat earlier period. The church was in the form of a Latin cross, the length 154 feet, the breadth 68 feet, height of nave 78 feet, height of tower 141 feet. It was not known how the fire originated though it was ascribed to the overheating of the flues. The church was re-built at a cost of £50,000, and was finished in 1858.

March 4th. At the Leeds Philosophical society's promenade, there was a very interesting exhibition of the works of artists connected with Leeds by birth or residence. More than 350 subjects were exhibited, and all collected within a week.——24th. The balance of the debt incurred on the rebuilding of the Leeds parish church, amounting to £31 9s. 5d., was paid off this day.

Guardians of the Poor of the township of Leeds, elected April 5th, 1853 :—

The names in brackets were elected.

EAST, [Edward Barker 251, Henry Barker 270,] George Lumb

1853.—APRIL.

202, William Clarke 180.—KIRKGATE, [Edmund Stead 295, Robert Wright 294,] Charles Crabtree 256, William Sadler 252. —MILL-HILL, [John Wilson 543, Thomas Jowett Wilkinson 533, John Smith 528,] Richard Stead 406, Leonard Hicks 399, William Booth 424, Peter Law Atkinson 26.—NORTH, [Joseph Linsley 481, Robert Meek Carter 471,] William Wray 293, Nathaniel Sharpe 288.—NORTH-EAST, [Thomas Bramfit 316, Thomas Cordingley, 315,] Samuel Lawson 314, Thomas Dawkins 309.—NORTH WEST, [David Newton 531, Enoch Darke 503,] Alfred Brigg 318, Thomas Royston 291.—SOUTH, [Hutchinson Gresham 230, Richard Gardner, 230,] Thomas Headland, 54 William Chadwick, 74. —WEST, [Thomas Willington George 996, John Botterill 955, James Redfitt 964,] Henry Crawshaw 474. Hutchinson Gresham was elected chairman.

April 12th. A committee of lunacy investigated the mental condition of Mr. Feargus O'Connor, formerly a popular chartist leader, and decided "that he was of unsound mind and was incapable of managing his affairs." The object of the enquiry was to secure the protection of the Court of Chancery of Mr. O'Connor's property, amounting to £1,400 for his future maintenance. The lunacy was dated from the 10th of June, 1852, the day on which he was committed to the custody of the serjeant-at arms by the House of Commons.—21st. The election of a member to represent the borough of Huddersfield in parliament, in the place of Mr. Stansfeld, unseated on petition, took place this day. The result of the poll was :—Lord Goderich 675, Joseph Starkey, Esq. 593.

May 4th. As some workmen were engaged in excavating for a branch drain from the spirit vaults of Messrs. Myers, at corner of Kirkgate, Briggate, Leeds, they turned up a quantity of old coins, all silver except one which was gold. Altogether there were as many coins as would fill a quartern measure. The silver coins consisted of groats, half groats, and pennies, mostly of the reign of Edward IV., a few of the reign of Richard II., and the solitary gold coin was of the Anglo-Gallic period.—5th. Died at Micklefield, Yorkshire, aged 107 years, William Hurst, a farm labourer up to the time of his death ; his memory was unimpaired, and he could read a newspaper without glasses.

10th. A copious shower of snow fell in Leeds and the neighbourhood. At Ilkley on the same day the hills were covered by their winter garb. At Huddersfield, Holmfirth, and Barnsley, it was the heaviest snow storm that was ever known by the oldest inhabitant to have fallen at this season

1853.—MAY.

of the year, and was certainly by far the heaviest that had occurred there for a number of years at any season.

On the night of the 5th of May between eleven and twelve o'clock, an engine ran off the York and North Midland line at Brayton, near Selby, causing the deaths of John Thompson, the engine driver, and Joseph Sykes, the stoker. The coroner's jury returned a verdict of *manslaughter against the Directors of the company*, they being of opinion that the accident was caused either by a defect in the engine or the line. Harry Stephen Thompson, George Hick Seymour, and Samuel Priestman three of the directors, were tried at the York summer assizes for manslaughter, when the jury returned a verdict of *not guilty*.——16th. A public meeting was held at the Court-house, Leeds, John Hope Shaw, Esq., in the chair, to petition parliament in favour of closing public houses and beershops during the whole of Sunday, and on the 2nd of June a meeting of the licensed victuallers, malsters, and spirit merchants of Leeds was held at the Stock Exchange, Mr. William Swale in the chair, to take into consideration the movement against the closing of public houses on the whole of the day on Sundays, and and other matters affecting the licensed victuallers.

On the evening of the 16th of May, a destructive fire occurred at Messrs. Wood and Walker's old mill, Manchester-road, Bradford. The fire commenced in the top story, and that, and the story below being occupied by looms with cotton warps (54 spinning frames and 150 looms,) the fire made rapid progress, and in less than an hour the whole was one mass of flames. The three lower floors were arched brick work and fire proof, so that they sustained very little injury. The morning after the fire a number of people were set to work to remove the rovings out of the spinning frames in the three rooms, which were in danger of spoiling from the water which dripped through from above. About a quarter past eight o'clock, when all idea of danger had passed away, something fell upon the brick floor over the third story which caused it to give way, and in its fall instantaneously broke down the floors beneath, the whole falling in one huge mass of ruin. The alarm was dreadful. Immediate steps were taken to rescue the men who were buried beneath the rubbish. Six men were conveyed to the infirmary alive, though seriously injured, namely John Barbary, George Scholey, John Ellis, Robert Millar, Robert Dobson, and Henry Gibson. Others went to their own homes with considerable injuries on them. When all were got

1853.—MAY.

out that could be seen, four unfortunate men were missing, for whose lives there could be no hope. As soon as the mass of rubbish could be cleared away their bodies were found, the men being quite dead. The names of these men were Samuel Butler, Thomas Hutchinson, Richard Killerby, and William Jennings. No cause could be assigned for the origin of the fire.——18th. At the council meeting of the Society of Arts, the report of the judges on the essays sent in, in competition for the special prize offered by the society “for the best Essay on the History and Management of Literary, Scientific, and Mechanics’ Institutions ; and especially how far, and in what manner they may be developed and combined, so as to promote the well being and industry of the country,” was read, and the prize awarded to the author of the essay with the motto “Nemo labori Musas vetat.” Mr. James Hole, of Leeds, honorary secretary to the Yorkshire Union of Mechanics’ Institutes was the successful competitor.

24th. The first stone of the new catholic church on Richmond-hill, Leeds, was laid by Dr. Briggs, Roman catholic Bishop of Beverley. The site was named Mount St. Mary, and the building designated “The church of the Immaculate Virgin Mary.” When completed it will be one of the most remarkable places of worship in the town. It was opened in its present state in July, 1857. The original plans were drawn by Mr. Hanson, of Preston, but the erection has since been entrusted to Mr. W. Wardell, of London. The building is chiefly of stone, and is in the style of the early period of decorated Gothic. When finished, the edifice is to contain two massive western towers, north and south transepts, two spacious sacristies, a choir, (with double choir aisles on each side) a lady chapel eastward of the choir, and eight chapels of other dedications, some of which, opening from the south aisles, are at present used as temporary sacristies. The altar is at present fitted up in the chancel. The length of the nave is about 128 feet ; but, when finished, the church will extend to a length of 210 feet, and the breadth at the transept will be 100 feet. The roof is carried to a height of 82 feet. In the north aisles of the nave are five confessionals, each forming a small apartment lighted from the outside. A cloister runs along this side of the church, which will communicate with the future monastery, to be erected at the west end. It is also contemplated to build a convent for the Sisters Oblates of Mary Immaculate.——30th. The Leeds town council after a lengthened and spirited debate, passed a resolution by twenty two

1853.—MAY.

against eleven, “to petition parliament not to pass the education measure recently proposed by Lord John Russell.” On the following day a meeting of the members of “the Yorkshire society for promoting National Education,” was held at the Court-house, J. H. Shaw, Esq. in the chair, when a resolution was passed to the effect “that this society, though not pledging itself to full concurrence with all the details of the educational bill now before parliament, is so convinced of the necessity of extending and improving the means of education of the people, and especially so much approves of the principle of *local rating* in aid of schools, that it hereby expresses its support of the bill as a tentative and preparatory measure.” Petitions founded on the above resolutions were presented to both houses of parliament.

June. At this time “the table turning mania” was at its height. A magnetic influence was said to be communicable by men to inanimate objects, such as hats, tables, &c., which caused those objects to revolve without any muscular effort. The usual plan of experimenting was for a number of men or women to form a circle round a table,—join their hands at the little fingers, and rest them slightly on the edge of the table. In a short time the table would begin to turn round, not from any muscular pressure, but as obeying some unknown influence, supposed to flow from the circle of human beings. When the motion commenced, the persons forming the circle kept their hands joined on the table whilst it was moving, and moved round with it, they were not conscious of pushing it, or giving it any impulse, but felt as if it moved spontaneously under their hands; and sometimes the motion was sufficiently rapid as to cause dizziness. Whether the phenomenon was a real or imaginary one, it was a great deal believed in by all classes of the community, and indeed very nearly turned the heads of hundreds.

The local artists and lovers of art in Leeds, formed at this time a public exhibition of modern works of art, styled “The Leeds Academy of Arts.” The aggregate value of the paintings exhibited was said to be upwards of £20,000. The exhibition was open three months.—13th. A public meeting of the inhabitants of Leeds was held in the coloured Cloth-hall-yard, to consider the bill then before parliament for the promotion of education in cities and boroughs in England. J. H. Shaw, Esq., mayor, opened the proceedings. J. G. Marshall, Esq. moved a resolution in favour of national education, which was seconded by the Rev. William



1853 — JUNE.

Guest. Mr. Alderman Carbutt moved an amendment against the bill, which was seconded by the Rev. G. W. Conder. The Rev. S. R. Hall moved a resolution approving of the principle of local rating in the government bill, which was seconded by Mr. Nunneley, (surgeon). Dr. Lees and Mr. Councillor Carter spoke in favour of the original motion, and Mr. Thomas Plint, and Alderman Wilson in favour of the amendment, after which the mayor called for a show of hands, first for the amendment, and then for the original motion. The mayor declared the amendment carried, and signed petitions to both houses of parliament, expressing the decision of the meeting.

On Sunday the 19th of June, about noon, a storm passed over the town of Skipton, which very much injured the parish church. The electric fluid struck the south west pinnacle of the church, causing it to fall with a tremendous crash. The estimated weight of the pinnacle which fell was a ton and a half. It was broken into splinters. One large piece being carried a considerable distance fell near the Castle Inn, and broke part of the causeway. Another portion of the pinnacle nearly a ton weight dropped down upon the flags in the yard, breaking them and embedding itself in the ground. The accident occurred just before the close of the mornings service, and the congregation were so alarmed by it that they rushed out of the building without their hats and in the greatest fear.

30th. Died, aged 36, Mr. William Brook, of Swinegate, Leeds, well known as a leader of the Chartist party in the town. He represented Holbeck ward for six years in the town council, and for a longer period was a member of the board of highway surveyors. He was interred at the Woodhouse cemetery where his friends have erected to his memory a beautiful monument of Gothic design, twenty eight feet high, bearing the following inscription :—

“ Sacred to the memory of William Brook, of Leeds, born September 11th, 1816, died June 30th, 1853, who, during a series of years laboured zealously in the full confidence of his honesty of purpose in the promotion and elevation of social order, and for the political advancement of his fellowmen; discharging honourably and faithfully the duties incumbent upon the responsible public offices of improvement commissioner, town councillor, poor-law guardian, and highway surveyor, with a fidelity, ability, and economy rarely equalled. This monument is erected by his friends and admirers in exemplification of departed worth.”

July 7th. The Leeds town council resolved to purchase a





PUBLISHED BY JOSEPH JOHNSON.

SKIPTON.

IN 1850.



1853.—JULY.

piece of land lying between North-street and Camp-road, for a sum not exceeding £5,200, "to be used in future as a cattle market, it being intended to remove the cattle fair from Kirkgate market as suggested by a committee of the house of commons." The first cattle market was held on the new site on Wednesday the 13th of July.——22nd. Out of fifty estimates for the erection of the Leeds Town-hall, the committee accepted that of Mr. Samuel Atack, bricklayer and builder, Leeds, amounting to £41,835.——The band of the 23th regiment played on Woodhouse moor, Leeds, on every alternate Wednesday and Saturday evenings.

23rd. A very sad affair occurred on the premises of Mr. Henry Barker, plumber, Kirkgate, Leeds. It seems that a quarrel had taken place between an apprentice named Peter Dawson, and a journeyman named Wallace Waddington, which terminated in the death of the latter, caused by Dawson striking him a violent blow over the head with a long brush. Dawson was committed to the assizes on a charge of manslaughter, and sentenced to three months imprisonment.

25th. About two hundred operative joiners and carpenters of Leeds, struck work for an advance of wages. At the same time there was a strike of the cab men in London, and of the police at Hull.

August 4th. The Rev. James Collier, Wesleyan minister in the first Leeds circuit, seceded from the connexion, from a conviction that he could not honestly administer Wesleyan discipline, or acknowledge the authority claimed by the conference.

17th. The first stone of the Leeds Town-hall, was laid by John Hope Shaw, Esq, in the presence of a vast concourse of spectators. The day was made one of popular enjoyment. The ceremony was attended by the magistrates and town council, the members of most of the other boroughs in the West-Riding, the vicar, the architect, the town clerk and other officials, the military officers stationed in the town, the committees of the Philosophical society and Mechanics' Institution, the guardians of the poor, a great number of professional men, merchants, and tradesmen, and the members of several societies and orders. The whole formed a procession of enormous length, and was enlivened with banners and the music of military and other bands. Mr. Alderman Hepper, the chairman of the Town-hall committee commenced the proceedings by asking the mayor to lay the foundation stone, and presented to him a richly embossed

1853—Aug.

silver trowel, with an ivory handle, and a mallet made of polished oak, with silver mountings, bearing the following inscription :—

“Presented to John Hope Shaw, Esq., the mayor of Leeds, on behalf of the council of the borough, by Mr. Alderman Hepper, chairman of the Town-hall committee, on the occasion of laying the foundation stone of the Town-hall, 17th August, 1853.”

The mayor then took the trowel and mallet, and assisted by the architect and contractor proceeded to lay the first stone, at the south west corner of the new building. First, was deposited in a cavity in the stone a bottle hermetically sealed, containing specimens in gold and silver only, of the several current coins of the realm, from a sovereign to a penny, (except a 5s. piece, which could not be obtained of the present reign,) a copy of the Leeds Mercury, the Leeds Intelligencer, and the Leeds Times, published on the 13th ; a list of the members of the council, of the several committees, and of all the officials of the town council, and a copy on vellum of the inscription on the plate, provided to cover the cavity in the foundation stone. Over the cavity was placed a brass plate which was covered with melted wax to keep it air tight. The brass plate bore the following inscription, engraved by Mr. Topham, Boar-lane :—

“The corner stone of this Town-hall, erected by the mayor, aldermen and burgesses of the borough of Leeds, was laid on the 17th of August, 1853, in the sixteenth year of the reign of Queen Victoria, by John Hope Shaw, Esq., mayor.

**BUILDING COMMITTEE ;—***Chairman.*—Alderman William Hepper. *Aldermen ;—*John Wilson, John Darnton Luccock, William Kelsall, Charles Gascoigne Maclea. Francis Carbutt. *Councillors ;—*Richard Bissington, John Marshall, George Brook, John Ardill, David Newton, Joshua Garsed Heaps, Joseph Broadhead, John Croxdale, William Kettlewell, James Smith, Robert Meek Carter, William Illingworth, John Lister. George Skirrow Beccioft, Robert White. *Town Clerk ;—*John Arthur Ikin. *Architect ;—*Cuthbert Brodrick.”

The contractor having placed the mortar on the stone, the mayor spread it with his silver trowel, and the upper stone was lowered upon the one containing the deposit ; his worship next applied the plumb line and square to level it, and then striking it with his elegant mallet three times, said :—  
“Thus, and thus, and thus, I lay the foundation stone of the new Town-hall of Leeds ; and may God prosper the undertaking.” At the conclusion of this ceremony the vast audience signified their approbation by a loud unanimous

1853.—Aug.

burst of applause, which was caught up by the masses outside, and the cheers were re-echoed through the surrounding streets, and by the crowds on the tops of the buildings. The madrigal and motet society then sung the following chorus, the music of which had been composed by Mr. Spark for the occasion :—

“ A blessing we ask on the work now begun,  
 May it prosper in doing—be useful when done :  
 May the Hall whose foundations thus broadly are laid,  
 Stand a trophy to Freedom—to Peace, and to Trade ;  
 While within it, may Honour for ever preside  
 Over those whom opinion may chance to divide :—  
 And in ages to come may the fabric we rear,  
 Be greeted, by men yet unborn, with a cheer.  
 May Justice and Mercy, enthroned in the Law,  
 Here the innocent shield—keep the guilty in awe :—  
 May our councils be governed by wisdom and right,  
 And be open as day, and as pure as its light.  
 After labour is sped, here the “ million ” may throng.  
 To be soothed and refined by the spirit of Song.  
 Thus in ages to come, shall the fabric we rear  
 Be greeted, by men yet unborn, with a cheer.”

The mayor then addressed the audience and was followed by the Rev. Dr. Hook, the late venerable Henry Hall, Esq. (who had joined in the ceremony of laying the foundation stone of the Court-house, forty two years before,) and Edward Baines, Esq., after which the mayor and guests, including the borough members, with the members of the town council and other gentlemen, dined together at the Music-hall, and the several bands repaired to Woodhouse moor attended by an immense concourse of people, estimated at more than 60,000. The festivities of the day concluded by a display of fireworks on Woodhouse moor.

22nd. A public meeting of the retail tradesmen of Leeds, convened by the mayor was held at the Court-house, in favour of the early closing of their shops. The meeting pledged itself to close retail business at eight o'clock in summer and seven in winter.——29th. A very exciting race for £100 was run at West-hill Park, Halifax, between Isaac Hemingway of Leeds, and John Whittingham of Bradford, both celebrated runners. The race after a very severe struggle was won by Whittingham.

31st. The opening of St. George's-hall, Bradford, was celebrated by a grand musical festival, under the leadership

1853.—Aug.

of Mr. Costa, of the Royal Italian Opera. The principal vocalists were Madame Clara Novello, Miss Louisa Pyne, Mrs. Lockey, Mrs. Sunderland, Miss Freeman, and Madame Castellan. Mr. Sims Reeves, Mr. Lockey, Signor Gardoni, Signor Tagliafico, Mr. Weiss, and Herr Formes. The orchestra was perhaps the most complete and effective ever collected together in the north of England. It consisted in all of eighty six executants, selected from the renowned orchestras of the Covent garden Italian opera, and the Philharmonic society. The chorus was numerous, remarkably efficient, and well balanced, having about fifty five voices to each part—trebles, altos, tenors, and basses, chiefly selected from the neighbouring choirs and choral societies of Leeds, Huddersfield, Bradford, Halifax, York, Manchester, &c., &c. Mr. William Jackson, of Bradford, was the chorus master ; Mr. Brownsworth of London, organist ; and Mr. Costa, conductor. The entire orchestra contained nearly 350 performers. The performance commenced on Wednesday morning, the 31st of August, with the national anthem sung by the principal singers and chorus, followed by Mendelssohn's "St. Paul." After the oratoria, the Hallelujah chorus from Beethoven's "Mount of Olives" was sung by way of *finale*. The concert in the evening consisted of an excellent selection of secular music ; the most attractive perhaps being the *finale* to the opera "Loreby," by Mendelssohn. On Thursday morning was performed the "Messiah," and on Thursday evening was performed a miscellaneous selection of vocal and instrumental music, the main attraction being Mendelssohn's gorgeous symphony in A minor. The other principal instrumental piece was Beethoven's overture to "Leonora." The programme of Friday morning's performance was an exceedingly attractive one, including as it did, a manuscript *Credo* by Mendelssohn, this being the first time of its performance, having being presented to the festival committee by the representatives of the late composer ; the greater part of Haydn's "Creation," and in the second part a baptismal anthem by Signor Costa, and in addition to all this a great portion of Handel's magnificent oratorio "Israel in Egypt." The main attraction of the Friday evening's performance (the final concert) was Mendelssohn's music to "A Midsummer Night Dream," Rossini's overture to "Guillaume Tell," Beethoven's symphony in C minor. The scene at the conclusion, when the principal vocalists came forward to sing, with the full power of the band, chorus, and organ, "God save the Queen" was indescribably grand and imposing ; it

1853 — AUG.

was indeed an appropriate and magnificent termination to one of the most successful musical festivals ever given in England.

*Description of the Building* :—The hall was erected under the direction of a committee of shareholders, at the head of which was Samuel Smith, Esq., the mayor. The site of the building is at the junction of Hall Ings with Bridge-street. It is built of stone and covers an area of about 1,600 square yards. The west and south elevations present a rusticated basement story, twenty seven feet high, surmounted by Corinthian pillars and pilasters supporting the entablature. The western or principal front is seventy five feet in height to the apex of the pediment. The rusticated basement story contains five entrance doors, the three centre ones leading to the great hall, and the other two to the rooms below. On each side of the centre door are niches for bronze candelabra. The lower part of the intercolumniations is filled up with windows, and the upper with circular shields surmounted by wreaths of oak leaves. The basement story on the south consists of a large room used as a *restaurant* for the accommodation of mercantile men, the windows are deeply recessed and between them are festoons of fruit and flowers beautifully carved. The long row of Corinthian pillars above this story is relieved by eight large arched windows, corresponding to eight others on the north side of the building, through which in the day time the great hall receives its light. Besides the large room on the basement story are also kitchen vaults and other rooms. Over the vestibule is a spacious refreshment room handsomely fitted up; and outside the spacious corridor which runs round the large hall are cloak rooms, retiring rooms, &c. The full dimensions of the great hall are 152 feet by 76, and the extreme height in the centre of the ceiling, which is arched, 60 feet. The floor however is diminished by about 13 feet on each side in order to provide on the north a promenade room, and on the south sundry cloak, retiring, and other rooms. By this means the open area on the floor is reduced to 96 feet by 49; which however is more than compensated for by the erection at a height of 12 feet only, of an overhanging gallery on three sides of the hall, which is supplied with five rows of stalls at the west end, and four rows on each side, all fitted up with every regard to comfort and elegance. Around this gallery runs a spacious corridor, having at the west end three, and at each side three doors for entrance and exit. Over the first gallery for stalls and over the entire



1853 — AUG.

corridor is a second gallery also carried round three sides, and of immense capacity ; the west end containing 20 rows of seats, and the two sides six rows each. The hall then consists of area, stalls, and upper gallery ; the first which is supplied with comfortable backed seats will accommodate about 1,000 people ; the second will furnish 540 stalls ; and the third or upper gallery will seat about 1,600 persons ; or altogether 3,140 persons. The orchestral part which is at the eastern end of the hall is semicircular in form, with a diameter of 49 feet. On each side of the orchestra are Corinthian pilasters, springing from the platform and supporting the entablature. The space above the cornice is covered and divided into panels, ornamented with a deep border of vines, ivy leaves, fruit and flowers. The ceiling is divided into four compartments by borders of flowers and scroll work, with central ornaments of a very finished description and designed with great taste. Behind the orchestra are seven rooms for the use of the performers, with three separate entrances for the principals, the chorus singers, and the instrumental performers on each side. Communicating with these rooms are also performers' boxes, one on each side of the orchestra, by which those occupying the green rooms for the moment may witness what is going on in the hall, without having to enter the orchestra. At night, the hall is lighted by a continuous line of gas jets, (1750 in number) from pipes carried entirely round on the upper surface of the cornice. The ventilation of the hall is effected by circular apertures pierced through the exterior mouldings of the outer border of the ceiling, continued all round the room, the heated air escaping through openings in the roof. The interior decorations are highly ornamental and executed in the best style. The architects of the building were Messrs. Lockwood and Mawson of Bradford. The organ was built by Mr. Holt of Bradford, and is a magnificent instrument possessing a firm tone and great power.

Sept. 3rd. Mrs. Harriet Beecher Stowe from the United States of America, the authoress of "Uncle Tom's Cabin," paid a short visit to Leeds, previous to departing for America. She was the guest of Edward Baines, Esq. of Headingley, at whose house a testimonial from the ladies of Leeds, together with an address from the Leeds Anti-Slavery Association was presented to her. The mayor John Hope Shaw, Esq. presided. Mr. Wilson Armistead the president of the Leeds Anti-Slavery Association read the address. The late Sir George Goodman, M.P., had the honour of presenting

1853.—SEPT.

the ladies testimonial. The inscription on the basket containing it was as follows :—

“Presented by a few ladies to Harriet Beecher Stowe, the friend of the Slave.” [This was followed by the Leeds Arms.] “The readers of Uncle Tom’s Cabin place £100 in the basket as an offering of gratitude. Leeds September 3rd, 1853.” “The Lord bless thee and keep thee.”—NUMBERS vi, 24. “The Lord grant thee according to thine own heart, and fulfil all thy counsel.”—PSALMS xx, 4.

19th. A dreadful boiler explosion took place on the premises of Messrs. George Hammond and Son, flax spinners, Lowfold mills, Bank, Leeds, which resulted in the death of six persons, and serious injury to several others. The persons killed were Thomas Hamilton, Jane Middleton, Ann Macdonald, Martin Fleming, George Procter, and Rose M’Nally. The coroners jury decided that the explosion was caused by the boilers and their fittings being constructed on a dangerous principle, and that they were worked at too high a pressure.

20th. The opening celebration of the gigantic factory and extensive works for the manufacture of alpaca and mohair fabrics, of Titus Salt, Esq., at Saltaire, took place this day, and consisted of a splendid entertainment at the works, provided by the proprietor, a dance in the meadows, and a concert in St. George’s Hall, Bradford, in the evening. Luncheon was provided by Mr. Wilks, of the White Horse Hotel, Leeds, for no less than 3,750 persons, including invited guests, workpeople, police, musicians, &c. The bill of fare included a baron of beef weighing 300lbs, four hind quarters of beef, 40 chins of beef, 120 veal and ham pies, 120 legs of mutton, 100 dishes of lamb, 40 hams, 40 tongues, 50 pigeon pies, 50 dishes of roast chicken and turkey pouts, 20 dishes of roast ducks, 30 brace of grouse, 30 brace of partridges, 50 dishes of potted meats of various kinds, lobsters and lobster salads, gelatines of turkey and veal, 320 plum puddings, 100 dishes of tartlets and lemon cheese-cakes, 100 dishes of jellies, blanc-mange, pastry, Stilton cheese, &c. ; altogether two tons weight of meat ; 1½ tons of potatoes were supplied. The desert consisted of pines, grapes, melons, peaches, nectarines, apricots, filberts, wall nuts, apples, pears, biscuits, sponge cakes, &c. The area of the Saltaire mill, is computed at six and a half acres, while the several floors in the mills, warehouses, and sheds form a superficies of nearly thirteen acres. The mill runs from east to west, being 550 feet in length, and 72 feet in height above the level of the rails. It includes six stories and is

1853.—SEPT.

constructed of massive stone work in the boldest style of Italian architecture. The front presents a handsome façade, with three large arched entrances, above which are rows of six windows ; and in each wing rows of twenty two windows for lighting the engine houses and the stories above. The wool combing shed on the west side of the mill measures 210 feet by 112, and is covered by a hollow girder roof, supported by fifty iron pillars. The weaving shed is on the eastern side of the mill, with a similar roof to the combing shed, supported by sixty five cast iron pillars ; its dimensions comprise an area of 8,400 yards, and it will hold 1,200 looms. The engines to drive the works are of beautiful design, and consist of two pairs, nominally of 400 horse power, but capable of being worked up to the extent of 1,250 horse power. Some idea of the magnitude of these vast machines may be gathered from the fact, that the engine bed absorbed upwards of 2,400 tons of solid stone. The large chimney at the south east corner of the mill is 250 feet high with a base of 18 square feet. The boiler house contains eight boilers. The Gas works are to the north east between the canal and the river. The gasometer is 60 feet in diameter and 18 feet deep, and is calculated to supply 100,000 feet per day for 5,000 lights. The works employ 4,500 hands. Mr. Salt has since erected 700 dwellinghouses, replete with every convenience requisite for the health and comfort of the inhabitants, a covered market, schools, and a place of worship.

29th. Mr. Alderman Sidney (of the firm of Sidney and Stables, Leeds,) was elected Lord mayor of London.

30th. At a special meeting of the Leeds town council, a motion by Mr. Alderman Hepper granting £7,000 for the erection of a tower to the Town-hall, which had also being recommended by the Town-hall committee, was rejected by twenty seven votes against twenty.

On Tuesday evening the 4th of October, one of the most terrific and destructive fires that ever occurred in Yorkshire took place at Halifax. The scene of the disaster was Lee mill, the property of Messrs. Whitworth and Co., consisting of a large mill six stories high, extensive warehousing five stories high, and a capacious weaving shed, the whole of which were destroyed. The loss was estimated at from £60,000 to £70,000. The fire commenced on the fifth story of the mill, and was supposed to have been caused by the spontaneous combustion of a quantity of waste.

Oct. 5th. The negotiations with the Earl of Harewood for a continuance of the supply of water from the river Wharfe

1853.—Oct.

having failed, in consequence of his lordship's solicitors asking a compensation of £1,000 a year. The Leeds town council decided to remove the pipes, engine, and other plant.

10th. The new law on receipt stamps (16 and 17 Vic. c. 59) came into operation this day, by which all receipts for the payment of £2 and upwards required a penny stamp, which might be impressed upon the paper, or an adhesive stamp affixed thereto.——24th. Miss Mary Fisher, well known in Leeds as a public singer and teacher of music, aged 35 years, committed suicide by hanging herself in her mother's house, Clay-pit-lane. The unfortunate woman is said to have committed the rash act, in consequence of a disappointment in love.——A beautiful font carved in Caen stone worked by Mr. Robert Mawer, of Leeds, was munificently presented to the church of St. Mark, at Woodhouse, by Mr. Alderman Maclea. The character of the work is that of the perpendicular period of Gothic architecture. The several panels of the octagonal basin are decorated with religious emblems in high relief, the bases of the intersecting mouldings between the panels being supported by angels with wings expanded, and holding tablets on shields. The basin is mounted on a suitable stem, and elevated on a base of steps. Under the lip of the basin the font is encircled with a simple inscription, dedicating the gift to the glory of God by the benevolent donor, and the inscription is cut in projecting letters of mediæval character, lying on an underface of beautifully carved foliage.——31st. At a special meeting of the Leeds town council it was decided "to give notice and take preliminary steps to enable the council to apply to parliament, during the next session of parliament for powers to obtain an additional supply of water for Leeds, from the district drained by the rivers Wharfe and Skirfare." This resolution was confirmed at an adjourned meeting of the council on the 14th of November. The Bradford Waterworks company had given similar parliamentary notices to obtain water from the same source.

## LEEDS MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS, NOVEMBER 1ST, 1853.

Those in brackets were elected.

MILL-HILL, [Obadiah Nussey, L, 207, John Barran, L, 191,] John Pyemont, C, 160 —WEST, [T. W. George, L, and John Patterson, R.] —NORTH-WEST, [David Newton, R, 247,] Alfred Briggs, C, 86. —NORTH, [John Kaye, L.] —NORTH-EAST, [James Phillips, C, 366,] John Chadwick, L, 282, John Wadsworth, L, 121. —EAST, [William Wray, C, 400,] John Croysdale, L, 353. —

1853.—Nov.

KIRKGATE, [Richard Stead, C, 230.] William Kettlewell, L, 201. —SOUTH, [John Neill, L.] —HUNSLET, [John Williamson, C, 558.] J. C. Barrett L, 357. —HOLBECK, [Robert Meek Carter, R, 1547, Robert Coxon, R, 1,126.] R. L. Armstrong, L, 725. —BRAMLEY, [William Winn, L, and S. L. Booth, C.] —HEAD-INGLEY, [G. S. Beecroft, C.]

Nov. 9th John Wilson, Esq. was elected mayor.

July 8th. Extraordinary Election, Kirkgate Ward, *vice* Samuel Smith, resigned in consequence of law suit—Mr. Smith was re-elected, the votes being Smith, C. 214, William Sellers, L. 143.

Nov. 9th. At a meeting of the Leeds town council, the following gentlemen were elected aldermen of the borough for the six years ending November 9th, 1859, namely :—

J. D. Luccock, Richard Wilson, John Wilson, William Horaby, Joseph Richardson. Joseph Whitham, William Kelsall, and Hutchinson Gresham.

On Sunday the 20th of November a great sensation was caused in St. Saviour's parish and throughout the whole "Bank," in Leeds, caused by the Rev. Charles Gutch the curate, refusing to inter the body of a parishioner in the East-street burial ground, because the deceased was not a communicant or a member of the church. On the relatives protesting against his conduct, the Rev. gentleman took till next day to consider his final determination, when he told them "that he had made up his mind not to admit the body into the church, but would go straight to the grave, and having read the latter portion of the service there, would read the first portion to the relatives and friends in the church, after the interment had taken place." The relatives subsequently called on Dr. Hook, the vicar of Leeds, and asked his interference. On looking into the matter to be legally correct, it was discovered that the vicar had authority over the burial ground; but not over the church. Accordingly the Rev. Nicholas Greenwell, curate of the parish church, accompanied by six of the churchwardens attended the burial ground to perform the service. The Rev. Mr. Gutch had caused the church doors to be closed. The vicar's representative therefore read the service outside, the former part at the west door of the church, the latter at the grave. The Rev. Mr. Greenwell, and the churchwardens had the annoyance of being pelted with sods and clay, by an excited crowd during the ceremony. —21st. An exceedingly dense fog overspread Leeds; up to noon objects were difficult of recognition when only a few yards distant. In many instances places of business were lighted up nearly throughout the

1853.—Nov.

day. A great number of fatal casualties occurred. At Stourbridge and neighbourhood seven persons were drowned. A female was drowned at Bradford, and a man at Hunslet.——30th. At a meeting of the Leeds poor law guardians, the Rev. Solomon Briggs, chaplain of the workhouse and the Industrial Schools, was censured by the board for erasing an entry made in one of the office report books.

On the night of the 1st of December, a singular case of suffocation occurred at Elescar, a populous village between Rotherham and Barnsley. Four persons who resided in a short row of houses abutting upon one of the blast furnaces at the Elescar Iron Works, namely:—Phoebe Sadler, aged 53, her daughter and son, Ann Sadler, aged 19, and John Sadler, 15, and a lodger named Warwick, aged 48, were all found dead in their beds, caused by inhaling the vapour of cyanide of potassium which had passed through a crack in the wall, from the furnace to the bed room.——6th. Died in his 56th year, Mr. Thomas Morgan, for more than twenty years Registration agent of the liberal party in Leeds. His very extensive knowledge of the locality, and of the law and practice of registration, his accuracy, his plodding perseverance, his decided liberal principles, and his perfect uprightness, made him exceedingly valuable to his party. The deceased was interred at Burmantofts cemetery and his funeral was attended by the late mayor Alderman Shaw, several of the aldermen, and a considerable number of town councillors, poor law guardians and other gentlemen.

Dec 6th. Mrs. Chisholm addressed the members, subscribers, and friends of the Leeds Mechanics' Institution and Literary Society, at the Music-hall, on "Hints on emigration to the Australian Colonies."——16th. Mr. Robert Harrison formerly of London, and late of St. Petersburg, was elected librarian to the Leeds Old Library. There were 177 candidates.——17th. Arthur Napoleon, a young Portuguese pianist aged 9 years, astonished and delighted the audience at the people's concert, Leeds, by his clever performance on the pianoforte.——17th. At the York assizes, James Ward, Wm. Benton, Rd. Dobson, S. Taylor, Joseph Ward, and George Adamson of Rothwell, were each sentenced to four years penal servitude for night poaching at Temple Newsam on the 27th of November. Thomas Phillips the head gamekeeper was wounded in the affray, and one of the poachers named Scholefield died from the wounds he received. On the same day, Joseph Close and Joseph Hodgson were sentenced, the former to four years, and the latter to twelve months for



1853.—DEC.

poaching, with wounding at Harewood.——On the night of the 27th of December a fire of a terrific and destructive character occurred in a newly built stuff warehouse, situate in Swaine-street, Bradford, the property of Messrs Ripley and Son, of Bowling, but in the joint occupation of Messrs. Berwick Brothers, Gillies and Co., and Messrs. Broadbent and McCrober. The damage to the building and property was about £40,000.

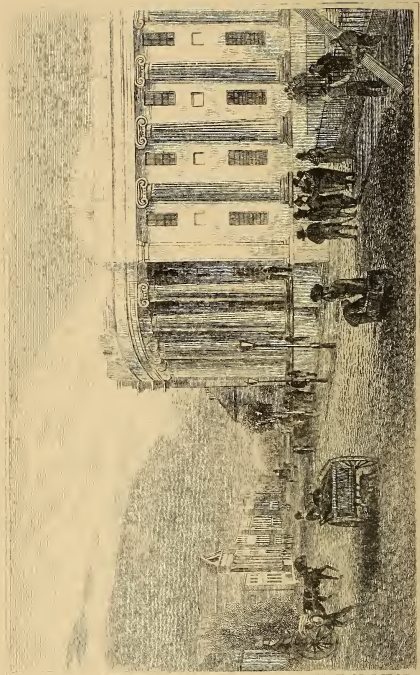
1854. This year was ushered in by a very heavy fall of snow all over the country. Everywhere business operations were almost entirely stopped. In Leeds on the 2nd and 3rd the cold was intense, and on the 4th the snow completely stopped the railway traffic connected with the town. There was not a single train from Manchester and other places for three days. On the night of the 3rd and until noon on the 4th the wind blew hard, with heavy squalls from the south east, causing a very many wrecks at Hartlepool, Sunderland, Shields, and other places. A storm still more severe visited the same coast on the 7th, doing great damage to shipping property. There was no less than 150 vessels driven ashore between Warkworth and Hartlepool.

Jan 6th. Bread riots occurred at Exeter, and several other places in Devonshire.

The Leeds Academy of Arts was again opened as a winter exhibition.——8th. A most extraordinary and mysterious occurrence took place in the family of Mr. Longbottom, who resided near the Baptist chapel, Hunslet, between the low road leading to Wakefield and the river Aire. It appears that Thomas the son of Mr. Longbottom had married so recently as Christmas day previously, the daughter of Frank Armitage, farmer of Harlington. On the night of the 7th they retired to bed about eleven o'clock apparently on the most friendly terms. Next morning about seven o'clock some one knocked loudly at Mr. Longbottom's door, and on looking out to his amazement he saw his daughter-in-law laid on the stone landing outside the house, in a state of insensibility and in her night dress, she evidently having fallen from the chamber window which was open. Search was made for the son when he was ultimately found drowned in the river Aire, also in his night dress. When the poor wife had recovered sufficiently to give evidence before the coroners' jury, she stated that she could not remember how the accident had happened; that her memory was a complete blank from retiring to rest on the Saturday night the 7th of January, to Thursday morning following, when conscious-







1854.—JAN.

ness returned. The father of the same young man committed suicide on Sunday night, the 30th of May, 1859, by throwing himself down the shaft of his own pit at Hunslet.

16th. At a special meeting of the Leeds town council it was decided to erect a covered market at the top of Kirk-gate market place, at a cost of not less than £14,000 which sum was accordingly granted. The building was opened on May 2nd, 1857. It is of iron and glass, covering an area of 4,040 yards. The style of architecture is Gothic; its form that of a parallelogram, with an oblique end. It has 44 shops on the outside, and 35 in the inside, where there are also four rows of iron stalls. At night the market is well illuminated by 200 gas lights, arranged round cast iron pillars. The exterior is formed by a glass screen above the shops, averaging 12 feet in height, and covered in by three longitudinal roofs. Altogether it is the most complete structure of its kind in England. Messrs. Nelson and Sons, of Leeds were the contractors. It is open daily from 7 a.m. in summer and 8 in winter, till 9 o'clock p.m.; and on Saturday till 11 p.m.——18th. There was a great flood at Doncaster and other parts of the West-Riding.

21st. The splendid new iron ship Tayleur bound from Liverpool to Melbourne with emigrants, was wrecked on the rocks which surround the Islet of Lambay, near Dublin Bay, and out of 700 passengers on board, 455 were drowned.

23rd. At a special meeting of the Leeds town council £1,300 18s. was granted for iron cattle pens, stone blocks, and the Grafton-street wall, for the Smithfield cattle market. The question of the North-street boundary wall was referred back to the committee for reconsideration.——25th. The annual soiree of the Leeds Mechanics' Institution and Literary Society was held at the Music-hall, under the distinguished presidency of Sir Edward Bulwer Lytton, Bart., who delivered a most eloquent address. The mayor of Leeds, the Lord mayor of York, Mr. Charles Knight, Mr. W. E. Forster, the Hon. and very Rev. Dean of Ripon, and others took part in the proceedings.——26th. The Leeds squadron of the Yorkshire Hussars dined together in the Assembly rooms, Leeds. The chair was occupied by Lieut. Colonel Beckett, M.P. After dinner a piece of plate was presented to Captain Bischoff, by the non-commissioned officers and privates of the squadron, as a testimonial of their esteem and friendship.

Feb. 1st. At a meeting of the Leeds board of guardians it was decided "That any minister, town missionary, local

1854.—FRB

preacher, or prayer leader, be allowed to visit the Workhouse and Industrial Schools for religious purposes at suitable times, not interfering with the stated duties of the chaplain."

6th. A large diamond estimated to be worth £280,000 from Rio Janiero, was deposited in the Bank of England. This precious jewel is said to have been found by a negro slave, who received his freedom as a reward.——8th. The Leeds town council granted £1,500 to the Town-hall committee for strengthening the foundation, and the walls of the vestibule, so that a tower might be erected thereon, if the council should afterwards so determine.——15th. A detachment of the 28th regiment (900 strong) under Lieut. Colonel Adams left Leeds for the seat of war, amidst the cheers of thousands of the inhabitants.——16th. Great damage was done at Sheffield by the bursting of the canal which runs between that town and Tinsley.——About the end of February and during the month of March, considerable alarm was created in Leeds by the appearance of the cholera. Up to the 10th of March there had been altogether forty cases of which fifteen proved fatal, and all the persons affected except five, were employed at the flax mills of Messrs. Wilkinson, Hunslet. The proprietors stopped the mills and adopted measures to remove everything that might have tended to cause the outbreak, though they stoutly maintained that the cause was exterior to their premises, and for which they were not responsible. The disease appeared at Castleford in a frightful form, and several deaths occurred.

March 8th. A meeting of the Leeds Chamber of Commerce and other gentlemen was held at the Court-house, for the purpose of hearing from Edward Baines, Esq. an explanation of the proposed new decimal system of coinage; and from Mr. Frederick Warren a statement with regard to the exhibition of the woollen manufactures of this district, in the new Crystal Palace at Sydenham.——13th. Mr. Justice Talford died of apoplexy, during the time he was delivering the charge to the grand jury at Stafford assizes.

18th. A meeting of the Leeds town council, the magistrates, the poor law guardians, and the highway surveyors, was held at the Court-house, for the purpose of conferring with Dr. Gavin, the superintending medical inspector, and Mr. Lee, the sanatory inspector of the board of health, in reference to the sanatory measures to be taken in order to avert the spread of the cholera.

1854.—APRIL.

Guardians of the poor for the township of Leeds, elected April 5th, 1854 :—

Those in brackets were elected.

EAST, [Henry Barker, 227, Edward Barker, 222,] William Wray, 200, William Brown, 207. — KIRKGATE, [Richard Stead, 340, Thomas Phillips, 327,] Edmund Stead, 214, Major Hurst, 211. — MILL-HILL, [John Patrick, 455, Leonard Hicks, 443, John Woodhead, 428,] Thomas Jowett Wilkinson, 393, John Smith, 412. — NORTH, [Joseph Linsley, 386, Robert Meek Carter, 373,] Thomas Ellis, 141, Joseph Aldridge, 129. — NORTH-EAST, [Samuel Lawson, 310, Richard Moat, 162,] John Wadsworth, 134. — NORTH-WEST, [David Newton, 438, Henry Bailey Legg, 433,] Thomas Royston, 199, Daniel Atkinson, 193. — SOUTH, [Richard Gardner, and Hutchinson Gresham. — WEST, [Thomas Willington George, 770, James Reffitt, 762, John Botterill, 743,] Peter Law Atkinson, 227. Hutchinson Gresham was elected chairman.

April 17th. St. Michael's church, Buslingthorpe, Leeds, was consecrated.—The 26th was observed as a day of public humiliation and prayer, "for the assistance on our arms, and for the restoration of peace to us, and our dominions." In Leeds collections were made in most of the churches and chapels of the town, on behalf of the wives and children of the soldiers and sailors who were engaged in battle.

Died, on Sunday afternoon, the 30th of April, at his residence, the Mount, Sheffield, in the 84th year of his age, Mr. James Montgomery, a distinguished poet, and christian philanthropist. He was the son of a Moravian missionary who died in the West Indies, and was born November 4th, 1771, at Irvine, in Ayrshire, but received his education at the Brethren's establishment, at Fulneck, near Leeds. While retaining a warm filial attachment to the ancient church of the United Brethren, he connected himself chiefly at one time, with the Wesleyan denomination in his own neighbourhood, but in his latter years was a regular attendant upon an evangelical ministry in the establishment. No man was ever more free from either polemical or sectarian narrowness ; and the catholic spirit of his hymns correspond to the whole tenor of his conduct. He settled at Sheffield in 1792, and soon after succeeded to a printing business, and the editorship of the *Sheffield Iris*, which paper in a short time became his own, and was conducted by him until 1825. As an editor he was a fearless advocate of civil and religious freedom, as well as every philanthropic object. He was twice imprisoned in York castle during the turbulent times of 1794 and 1795, for imputed political offences. His first

1854 — APRIL.

offence, for which he suffered three months imprisonment in (1794,) was for having reprinted, for a poor hawker, a song written years before by a clergyman at Belfast, commemorating the taking of the Bastile. The year following he endured six months imprisonment, for having stated in the *Iris* "that undue precipitation had been used in attacking a noisy mob in Sheffield, by the volunteers, by which attack two innocent persons had been killed." The poet soothed his confinement by the composition of his "Prison Amusements," which he published in 1796. 'The Wanderers of Switzerland,' published in 1806, first established his reputation as a poet, in spite of the very severe review by Macauley in the *Edinburgh Review*. The most important of his other works are :—'The West Indies,' (1810,) 'The World before the Flood,' (1813,) 'Greenland,' (1819,) 'Songs of Zion,' (1822,) and 'The Pelican Islands,' (1827.) As a poet he is chiefly characterized by purity and elevation of thought, harmonious versification, and a fine strain of devotional feeling. The labours of his latter years consisted almost entirely in composing hymns, or of occasional verses, and so long as the English tongue is spoken in either hemispheres, some of his hymns will continue to rank, with all the churches of Christ, amongst their favourite "songs of praise." In 1835 government granted him a pension of £150 a year.

30th. Died, at Easingwold, Yorkshire, Dr. Newton, an eminent Wesleyan minister. His years had passed three-score and ten, fifty five of which he had been a preacher. The estimation in which he was held is shown by the manner in which the news of his death was received, at a missionary meeting on the following day. *The Watchman* says "No one could have beforehand devised a worthier testimonial to the unequalled champion, and orator of missions, than that which was prepared for him on Monday, (1st May). That society, which had so often revived its spirit, and quickened its march under the music of his voice, was arrested in the midst of one of its fullest and happiest meetings, with tidings that he was no more. Man and woman, all over that vast multitude, bowed under a personal sorrow, and youth and age together dropped a tear. That moment of silence and grief was such an ovation as a worldly hero seldom wins, and such as the warm and modest heart of Dr. Newton, would have felt more than a noisy or a splendid tribute."

On Tuesday afternoon the 2nd of May, Leeds was visited

1854.—MAY.

by a thunderstorm, which unhappily involved the loss of two lives. The scene of the most serious calamity was the new Roman Catholic chapel, in the course of erection at Richmond-hill. Shortly before half-past one o'clock, five of the workmen employed at the chapel took shelter from a heavy shower of rain beneath an arch, which sprung from a buttress at the angle of the north transept. They had not taken refuge beside the buttress more than five minutes, when there was a long vivid flash of lightning, succeeded by a loud sharp peal of thunder, which struck down a corpse, John Riley. The lightning stripped off every particle of his clothing, and tore it to shreds. The electric fluid rent the buttress from top to bottom, and flung massive stones to an immense distance. The other four men were buried under the stones which had formed the buttress. John Cummings, aged 55, was crushed to a frightful degree, and died at the Infirmary the same evening. John Foy, Thomas MacDorrack, and J. J. Wilson, were also crushed, but not fatally. William Bulmer, who was employed in working the windlass at the top of the well, near to the chapel, was laid prostrate with his thigh broken. The windlass was wrenched from his grasp and shattered to pieces. A man named Hudson who was excavating in the well, was so mangled and crushed by stones that he was scarcely alive. Some idea of the force of the lightning may be formed, when it is stated that stones of the weight of sixty pounds were thrown a distance of 150 yards. About the same time as this sad occurrence, two horses proceeding along Pontefract-lane, drawing coal carts, were killed by the lightning, and one of the carts injured, but the drivers escaped.

May 11th. A splendid dinner was given by the Lord Mayor of London, (Thomas Sidney, Esq.) at the Mansion House, to the mayor, corporation, and justices, of Leeds, which for brilliancy, profusion, and magnificence, surpassed all previous expectation, and is an event that will long live in the memory of those who had the honour of being present. Besides the authorities of Leeds, the invitations included its leading inhabitants, as well as the members for the West-Riding, and the West-Riding boroughs, the Lord mayor of York, and the mayors of the several boroughs in the Riding, the Bishop of Ripon, the Vicar of Leeds, and many of the local clergy. The guests altogether numbered 260.

16th. The Leeds cattle markets and fairs were permanently removed from the Kirkgate, to the Smithfield market.

31st. The Leeds town council granted a further sum of



1754.—MAY.

£229, towards increasing the walls for the erection of the Town-hall tower.——On the night of the 31st of May, the troop ship “Europa” was destroyed by fire in the Bay of Biscay; twenty one lives were lost, including Colonel Moor of the Enniskillens.

June 7th. The seventeenth anniversary of the Yorkshire Union of Mechanics’ Institutes was celebrated at Bradford, the morning conference being held in the Mechanics’ Institute, Leeds-road, and the soiree in the evening at St. George’s Hall. Edward Baines, Esq. president of the union, presided at the morning conference, and Lord Beaumont presided in the evening. On the following day, the delegates and friends visited Saltaire, the great worsted manufactory of Titus Salt, Esq.——12th. A very large meeting, was held in the coloured Cloth-hall yard, Leeds, John Wilson, Esq. mayor, in the chair, “To petition parliament in favour of a law for prohibiting the sale of intoxicating liquors, during the whole of Sunday.” The gentlemen who spoke in favour of the petition were the Rev, Wm. Sinclair, Mr William Campbell, the Rev. G. B. de Renzi, and Mr. Joseph Barker, (from America.) The speakers in opposition were Mr. William Spirrett, and Mr. Swales. A resolution was carried in favour of the petition.——10th. The new crystal palace at Sydenham was opened by the Queen, in the presence of about 40,000 spectators.——14th. Died, in his 65th year, the Rev. Joseph Holmes, D.D., who for twenty years filled the office of head master of the Leeds Free Grammar School. The deceased was very much respected by his fellow townsmen, and was always held in the highest esteem by his scholars. He resigned his appointment at the Christmas previous to his death. The Rev. Alfred Barry, M.A., succeeded him as head master.

July 7th. The Rev. Charles Wicksteed, B.A., minister of Mill-hill chapel, Leeds, resigned his ministerial charge, owing to confirmed enfeebled health. He had held the appointment nearly nineteen years, during which period he had discharged his duties with unwearied devotion and zeal. His deep learning, and fervent piety, combined with charity, had secured to him the affections of his congregation, so that his resignation was accepted with feelings of deep regret and sorrow. As a small acknowledgement of his long and faithful services, the congregation presented to him on the 9th of October, 1854, a silver salver, which had cost £32, with a purse containing £883 15s. The Rev. Thomas Hincks was appointed to the ministry on the 7th of October, 1855.

1854.—JULY.

6th. The emigrant ship *Dirgo* departed from Liverpool to Adelaide, with 530 emigrants, but in a short time had to return, in consequence of the cholera having broken out amongst the passengers. There had been fifty one deaths, and fourteen were then dangerously ill.

10th. The cholera prevailed at Barbadoes, and up to this date, 15,000 or one-ninth of the population had fallen victims.——13th. At the annual dinner of the West-Riding Medical Charitable Society, held at the White Lion Hotel, Halifax, a beautiful silver kettle and stand, and a silver tray were presented to J. P. Garlick, Esq., F.R.C.S., on his resignation of the office of honorary secretary, which he had filled with unwearied energy, and active benevolence, for twenty five years.——20th. The Vegetarian Society of England celebrated its seventh anniversary, by a banquet in the Music-hall, Leeds, to which about 250 ladies and gentlemen, from various parts of the kingdom sat down. The late James Simpson, Esq., presided.——31st. The Leeds, Bradford, and Halifax Junction Railway, opened this day. The line was commenced in August, 1852.

Aug. 9th. The Leeds town council, after a debate of eight hours' duration, decided by twenty eight against seventeen, in favour of obtaining water from the river Wharfe, to be pumped from, or near Arthington, as the future source of water supply for the borough. There were four schemes before the council from which to select. The first was the Skirfare, a gravitation scheme, the estimated cost of which, exclusive of land, was set down by Mr. Bray at £317,000 ; 2nd, a scheme for bringing water by gravitation from the same district, jointly with Bradford, at a cost estimated by Mr. Leather at £180,000 ; 3rd, the Wharfe pumping scheme, at an estimated cost of £93,000 ; and 4th, the Washbourné gravitation scheme, at an estimated expense of £92,000.

12th. Lord Jocelyn died of Asiatic cholera. The deceased will be remembered as one of the conservative candidates for the representation of Leeds, in 1841. He was born on the 20th of February, 1816, and at the time of his death was Lieutenant Colonel, Commander of the Royal Essex Rifles. He was eldest son of the Earl of Roden, and in 1841 married Lady Fanny Cowper, daughter of Vicountess Palmerston, by whom he left two sons and two daughters.

22nd. Five persons were killed by an explosion at a new colliery, in the course of formation at Hemingfield, near Barnsley. The explosion was caused by one of the colliers carrying a naked light to a place where there had been an

1854.—Aug.

accumulation of foul air, in consequence of an overflow of water into the pit.—The late George Baron, Esq. of Drewton Manor, South Cave, near Hull, bequeathed his valuable collection of coins, medals, and books, on those subjects, worth about £2,000 to the Leeds Philosophical Society.

Sept. The deaths from Cholera in ten weeks, up to this date, in London, were 8,953. In France, no less than 88,026 persons had fallen victims to the disease during the year. The cholera had been very bad at Cleethorpes, Goole, and other places in England.—19th. Bramhope tunnel on the Leeds Northern division of the North Eastern Railway, was the scene of a frightful accident, caused by the falling in of a portion of the roof of the tunnel, twelve feet square, upon the engines and tenders of a passenger train. Some thirty persons were more or less injured, though none of them fatally.

WAR EVENTS OF 1854.—In July 1853 the Czar Nicholas of Russia, menaced the independence of Turkey, by forcibly seizing the provinces of the Danube, Wallachia, and Moldavia, which he claimed to hold as a material guarantee, for the exercise of a protectorate over the Greek subjects of the Porte. England and France believing that this would ultimately have the effect of making Russia mistress of the Bosphorus, the Dardanells, the Isles, and even the Mediterranean itself, formed a treaty of alliance with Turkey, (March 12th, 1854,) for the purpose of stopping the aggression. On the 28th of March war was declared. Fleets had been sent to the Baltic and Black sea. On the 8th of April, the first detachment of British troops landed at Gallipoli, and on the 14th at Scutaria. April 20th. Silistria was invested by the Russians. On May 11th, the Turks commenced active operations against the place. On June 3rd, a counter-mine killed 3,000 Russians. June 15th, the siege of Silistria was raised, and the Russians were in full retreat. During the five weeks siege, the Russian loss was estimated at 10,000 men. The French and English troops were then at Varna, where they remained until the beginning of September. On the 10th of August a fire destroyed more than a quarter of the town, and the troops were then suffering much from cholera and diarrhea. On the 24th of August, the allied generals determined upon the grand expedition to the Crimea. On the 5th of Sept. the troops were all under sail, and consisted of 27,000 English, under Lord Raglan, and about the same number of French under Marshal St.

1854.—SEPT.

Arnaud, and 8,000 Turkish troops. From the 14th to the 18th of Sept., the allied forces were landed without resistance in the Crimea, at Eupatoria, about fifty four miles from Sebastopol. On the 19th of September they advanced a few miles along the coast, to the banks of the small river Alma, where they found about 37,000 Russians entrenched on the steep slopes, varying in height from 160 to 400 feet of the southern bank.

BATTLE OF THE ALMA. — On the 20th of September, the allies determined to attack the enemy. The French advanced nearest the sea, and were partly covered by the fire from the fleet, the English charged in the centre, and the Turks on the left. The battle commenced about half-past twelve o'clock. By one o'clock the French columns succeeded in lodging themselves in force on the plateau. The British were greatly embarrassed in their advance. The bridge of the Alma had been broken down, so as to check the progress both of men and artillery, and just at the moment of advance, the whole village of Bourliouk, stretching a great distance along the river, burst into flames. Nothing daunted, though somewhat retarded, the British forded the Alma, breast high, under a storm of balls which fell like hail in the river, and began the long ascent, leaving on the ground at every step great numbers of their comrades. The light division under Sir George Brown and Sir De Lacy Evans, occupying the right of the British, pressed on the most rapidly, although at every step a dreadful redoubt poured destruction upon them. With thinned ranks they at length passed the long ascent, reached the redoubt, and sprang to take possession of it; but just then a heavy mass of Russian guards descended the hill, poured in upon the assailants a murderous fire, under which most of the officers of the 23rd went down, and then charged them with the bayonet, driving the light troops down the hill. At this critical moment up came the brigade of foot guards under General Bentick, and the Highland brigade under General Sir Colin Campbell, both of whom had been pressing up the hill to the left of the light troops, and opposed their terrible fronts of steel to the advancing Russian guards. Volleys of musketry brought the Imperial troops to a stand, but when the English guards and Highlanders rushed upon them with the bayonet, the sight was too dreadful, and the Russian guards turned round and fled. Then the redoubt was taken by the guards and Highlanders together, though not till the Russian artillery had carried off nearly all the cannon.

1854.—SEPT

About the same time, General Pennecfather, whose brigade had been connected with the right of the light division, overcame the opposition in his front, and united with the other brigades in the final attack upon the Russians. The British artillery was not much behind the infantry in reaching the heights, and it inflicted heavy loss on the enemy, both during the battle and in the pursuit. The French after gaining the heights turned to the left, and attacked the Russians with great effect, especially during the retreat. The heights of the Alma were carried after an engagement of about three hours and a half. The British loss was :—*officers* killed 26, wounded 73 ; *men* killed 327, wounded 1,557. The French :—*officers* killed 3, wounded 54 ; *men* killed 253, wounded 1,033. Total allies killed 609, wounded 2,717. The Russian loss was :—*officers* killed 45, wounded 101 ; *men* killed 1762, wounded 2,720. Total Russians killed 1,807, wounded 2,821. On the 23rd of September the allied armies quitted the position above the Alma, and moved across the Katscha. On the following day they passed the Belbek, with the intention of attacking Sebastopol on the north side ; but it was then found that at the mouth of the latter river, where the Generals had hoped to disembark the siege artillery, a Russian fort had been constructed, which it would be necessary to take before the artillery could be landed. This caused them to change their plans, and make for a small harbour, deep, but narrow, called Balaklava, on the south coast of the Crimea, and not more than eight miles south east of Sebastopol. Sept. 29th, Marshal St. Arnaud died, aged 53. On the 17th of October the allied armies opened fire on Sebastopol, which was continued incessantly for more than a week.

#### BATTLE OF BALAKLAVA.

On the 25th of October, at an early hour in the morning, the enemy attacked the position in front of Balaklava. In a very short time four redoubts garrisoned by Turkish troops were taken. The enemy's cavalry pursued the Turks until they encountered the 93rd Highlanders, who instantly drove them back by a vigorous and steady fire. Repulsed by one British infantry regiment, the Russian cavalry re-formed, and dashed forward against the Scots Greys. The numbers opposed to the Scots Greys were in proportion of six to one ; and the enemy opening their ranks received them in their midst, and then closed in upon them. The struggle was a fearful one, but the heroic bravery of these 280 British sabres caused the enemy to gallop back in great disorder to—

1854.—Oct.

wards the captured redoubts. Some time after this, a glorious catastrophe occurred, which filled all who witnessed it with sorrow. From a misconception of Lord Raglan's instructions, directing Lord Lucan to advance his cavalry nearer to the enemy, his lordship gave orders to Lord Cardigan to attack the enemy in the valley. The light cavalry numbered about 670 sabres. The brigade then charged onwards against the battery of nine guns, which breasted the valley. These guns opened a fearful discharge of grape upon the gallant fellows, whilst the batteries upon the right and left poured in volleys of round shot and shell. Undaunted by this murderous fire the cavalry pushed on, without once hesitating, dashed into the nine gun battery, and secured the cannon. In returning, the remnant of the cavalry had to cut their way through a column of Russian infantry. At that very moment when they were about to retreat, an enormous mass of Lancers was hurled upon their flank. Colonel Shewell, of the 8th hussars saw the danger, and rode his few men straight at them, cutting his way through with fearful loss. The other regiments turned and engaged in a desperate encounter. With courage almost too great for credence, they broke their way through the columns that enveloped them. How a single man escaped is really marvellous! In that fearful cavalry fight there were 13 officers killed or taken, 162 men killed or taken, 27 officers wounded, and 224 men wounded. Total killed, wounded, and missing, 426. Horses killed or missing, 394, horses wounded 126, total 520.

#### BATTLE OF INKERMEN.

On the 5th of Nov., at the dawn of day, the Russians poured out of Sebastopol with immense forces, ascended the Inkerman heights, and almost before the British had awakened from slumber, large masses of Russians were creeping up the hills in front, flank, and rear of the 2nd division. The morning was extremely dark, with a drizzling rain, rendering it almost impossible to discover anything beyond the flash and smoke of artillery, and heavy musketry fire. The enemy had placed batteries of heavy artillery on the slopes to the left. And now commenced the bloodiest struggle ever witnessed since war cursed the earth. So great was the hurry in the surprised army, that the regiments hastened to their posts by companies, and formed themselves at once in front of overpowering numbers of the enemy, whilst the heavy guns and field artillery of the Russians were showering death upon them from every point of advantage. Some of the



1854—Nov.

divisions were sent to resist the attack on the east ; others to resist that on the north and north west ; and in the thick fog it was impossible to tell which was the point of greatest danger. The British although opposed to vastly superior masses of Russians, contested every inch of the ground with a bravery that had never been equalled. The battle raged for nine long hours. The force of the Russians which attacked, amounted to 60,000 men, whilst the British troops that could be spared were but 8,000. When the British had been engaged several hours in the unequal and critical contest, bodies of 6,000 French arrived, and charged the Russians with powerful effect. At one point where the British were completely outflanked, the French battalions saved them by a timely attack. But in spite of English energy, and French ardour, still the Russians poured on their inexhaustible masses up hills bathed in the blood of their comrades. "Thus the battle continued" says Lord Raglan "with unabated vigour, and with no positive result, the enemy bringing upon our line not only all their field batteries, but those in front of Sebastopol and the ship guns, till the afternoon, when the symptoms of giving way first became apparent, and shortly after, although the fire did not cease, the retreat became general, and heavy masses were observed retiring over the bridge of the Inkerman, and ascending the opposite height, abandoning on the field of battle five or six thousand dead or wounded, multitudes of the latter having already been carried off by them. I never before witnessed such a spectacle as the field presented ; but upon this I will not dwell." But we have not finished the deeds of this bloody battle. On the side of the French siege works the Russians made a sally with 5,000 men, with which they seized two of the French batteries, and spiked fifteen guns. The French soon expelled the assailants, and pursued them to the very walls of their fortifications, inflicting a loss of 1,000 men. The number of British officers killed were 44, wounded 102 ; men killed 616, wounded 1878. French officers killed 14, wounded 34 ; men killed 118, wounded 1,279. The Russians had 247 officers killed and wounded ; men killed 4,976, men wounded 10,152.

On the 14th of November a violent hurricane swept over the Crimea, which left the soldiers tentless, deluged, and perishing, as well as whelmed many a brave ship beneath the billow.

Oct. 4th. Henry Hall, Esq. having resigned the office of treasurer to the Leeds General Infirmary, which he had filled



1854.—Oct.

gratuitously for more than thirty eight years, during the whole of which period he had earnestly and zealously promoted the interests, advocated the claims, and extended the benefits of charity. Joseph Mason Tennant, Esq. was appointed his successor.—6th. A fire broke out in the worsted manufactory of Messrs. Wilson and Son, in Hillgate, Gateshead; from thence it spread to a sulphur and saltpetre store, or powder mill. This blew up, and such was the terrific explosion (heard twenty miles distant,) that the burning mass was thrown across the Tyne, upon ships, and warehouses in Newcastle, which at once became ignited. At the time of the explosion a very large concourse of persons had assembled in the neighbourhood of the mill, and hundreds of them were buried beneath the burning mass. A many lives were lost, and a large number injured. Property was destroyed of the value of half a million.

By an order in council dated 18th of October, this year, 26 burial grounds and burial places, in the townships of Leeds, Hunslet, and Holbeck, were ordered to be closed, with the following modifications:—

“Burials to be discontinued forthwith, within the churches and church yards of St. Peter, St. John, Trinity, and St. Mary, Hunslet; and in the church vaults of St. James', and St. Paul's; also the burial grounds, Kirkgate (new), St. Mary's, St. Peter's Wesleyan, the Primitive Methodists, Quarry Hill, Vienna-street; Wesleyan New Connexion, Ebenezer-street; Mill Hill chapel; Albion chapel; Wesleyan chapel, Hunslet; Baptist chapel, Hunslet-low-road; and in Bethel chapel, Holbeck. And from and after 1st of July, 1855, the burial grounds of St. Patrick's Roman catholic chapel; Brunswick Wesleyan chapel; Oxford-place chapel; Queen-street chapel; and the Wesleyan Methodist chapel, Holbeck. And from and after the 1st of July, 1856, in the Quakers' burial ground. In Hill House Bank burial ground, attached to the church of St. Saviour's, one body only to be buried in each grave, (except in existing private vaults and graves) and burials to cease from and after the 1st of July, 1856. Burials to cease forthwith in the burial ground situated between the Coloured Cloth-hall, and the Infirmary. In the church yard of St. Matthew, Holbeck, no burials to take place within twenty feet of the walls of the church, or of any dwellinghouse, and wholly to cease from and after the 1st of July, 1855.”

23rd. A public meeting of the freeholders of the township of Leeds, and of other persons claiming an interest in Woodhouse moor, was held at the Court-house. Edward Baines, Esq. occupied the chair. Mr. Eddison very ably explained the objects of the meeting, and proposed a resolution to the effect:—

1854.—OCT.

"That this meeting views with jealousy any attempt to inclose Woodhouse moor, or to curtail its use or the existing rights of the freeholders, the commoners, or the inhabitants generally, and that a committee be now appointed, with power to add to their number, (five to be a quorum) to confer, or to consult with the Lords of the manor, and the recently appointed committee of the town council, or their respective agents."

A committee was appointed accordingly.

24th. A public meeting was held in Leeds, at the Court-house, convened by the mayor, to take steps to raise a subscription for the relief of the widows and orphans of the soldiers and sailors, who may die amidst the ravages and casualties of war. William Beckett, Esq., M.P., Sir George Goodman, and other gentlemen took part in the proceedings. A subscription was at once commenced, and ultimately more than £12,600 was raised. About the same time, meetings were held in the principal towns of the kingdom for the same object. The Queen headed the London subscription by £1,000, which was followed by Prince Albert with £500.

27th. A splendid banquet was given at the White Horse Hotel, Leeds, to the Lord Mayor of London, (Thos. Sidney, Esq.) by the municipal, magisterial, and other authorities of Leeds. The Lord mayor had sent his carriage and some of his servants, prior to his arrival in Leeds. An immense number of persons lined the rout of the procession. He was accompanied by Sir James Duke, and Mr. Alderman Wire. One hundred and sixty gentlemen were present at the banquet, including the mayor, municipal authorities, the borough members, the bishop of the diocese, the vicar, clergy, &c. The entertainment was on a most magnificent scale. After dinner Darnton Lupton, Esq. occupied the chair, when the usual loyal and other toasts were given. The banquet was given in acknowledgement, and in honour of the one given by the Lord mayor on the 11th of May.

31st. Samuel Smith, Esq. having filled the office of mayor of Bradford three years, a splendid banquet was given to him at the St. George's Hall, by the corporation.

On the 31st of October, the subscribers to the Leeds Mechanics' Institution presented to Mr. W. H. J. Traice, late secretary, a very beautiful timepiece, surmounted by two bronze figures, representing the fraternisation of the allies, bearing the following inscription :—

"Presented to W. H. J. Traice, as a token of esteem, by the committee and other friends of the Leeds Mechanics' Institution and Literary Society, October, 1854."

1854.—Nov.

Also at the same time, a lady's writing desk was handed to Mr. Traice, for presentation to his most worthy and estimable wife.

# LEEDS MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS, NOVEMBER 1ST, 1854.

Those in brackets were elected.

MILL-HILL, [Thomas Eagland, C, 310 Ben Cariss, C, 295.] John Smith, L, 280, Robert Adams, L, 272.—WEST, [Thomas Greenwood, L, 686, John Botterill, L, 674,] Joseph Lambert, L, 338, John Jackson, L, 318]—NORTH-WEST, [James Kitson, L] — NORTH, [Thomas Brumfitt, L, 320,] W. T. Bolland, C, 300.—NORTH-EAST, [John Longley, C.]—EAST, [W. Brown, C, 568,] Benjamin Musgrave, L, 537.—KIRKGATE, [Thomas Phillips, C.]—SOUTH, [James Smith, L.]—HUNSLET, [Benjamin Mellor, L, 869,] William Parker, R, 602.—HOLBECK, [William Naylor, L, 1217, John Pollard, L, 1192,] R. L. Armstrong, L, 1064, Henry Child, R, 981.—BRAMLEY, [John Lister, C, George Willis, C.]—HEADINGLEY, [Robert Dewsbury, C]

Nov. 9th, Joseph Richardson, Esq., was elected mayor.

Nov. 2nd. Dr. F. W. Bedford, head master of the schools in connection with the Leeds Mechanics' Institution, having been elected governor of Heriot's Hospital, Edinbro', a very elegant time piece was presented to him by his scholars, and by his colleagues a very beautiful rosewood writing desk, with writing utensils.—9th. The Leeds town council appointed a committee to make inquiries respecting the moors or wastes at Woodhouse, Holbeck, and Hunslet, and the best means of obtaining their appropriation for public use.—St. Matthias' church, Burley, near Leeds, was consecrated by the Bishop of Ripon on the 10th of Nov., 1854, and forms a very attractive object in the picturesque valley in which it is situated. The church is designed on the geometrical or middle pointed style, by Messrs. Perkin and Backhouse. The plan is cruciform, and consists of a tower, twenty one feet six inches square, at the west angle of the south transept. The tower is of three stages, and forms the entrance to the church. It is stone vaulted, and surmounted by a spire 166 feet high. The steeple was built at the sole expense of William Beckett, Esq. It contains an excellent peal of bells. The interior is fitted up with great taste, and has an imposing effect. The east and west windows are filled with stained glass, remarkably rich and harmonious in colour: the east containing figures of the four Evangelists, &c. The Reredos in Caen stone, is most elaborate, with enriched diaper panels in colour. In the wall of the south transept, is a beautiful monument to

1854 — Nov.

the memory of the late Mrs. Smith, of Burley, executed by B. Spence, Esq. of Rome. There is also a good organ. The erection of this church is due almost entirely to the exertions of Wm. Beckett, Esq., late M.P., and John Smith, Esq., aided by a grant from the Ripon Diocesan Society. It is endowed out of the Matthewman fund to the amount of £150 a year, and is in the patronage of five trustees. Near it is a very handsome parsonage-house. The Rev. T. Sturgeon, M.A., is vicar.——11th. A memorial from 270 respectable ratepayers of Holbeck, prayed that the town council would provide a cemetery or burial ground for that township.——St. Stephen's church, Burmantofts, Leeds, was erected this year, at the cost of about £3,000, of which £2,000 was granted by the Church Building Society, and £500 by the Ripon Diocesan Society. It is in the geometrical style, with a bell, which is at the west end. It has recently been made a vicarage, under the vicarage act. A vicarage-house was built in 1856, towards which £800 was raised by subscription, and £600 granted by the trustees of the late Mrs. Matthewman, who have also endowed the church with £150 per annum. The Rev. F. T. Rowell, M.A., is vicar. J. Dobson, Esq., architect.

1855. Jan. The committee of Leeds ladies for collecting and forwarding to the army in the Crimea, and hospital at Scutaria, useful and necessary articles, had sent up to this time goods of the value of about £1,500.

The Leeds Young Men's Christian Institute was established in 1855. The following agencies are in operation in this valuable institution:—public lectures during the winter months; devotional meetings every alternate Friday and Sunday evening, conducted by various ministers and laymen; an essay and conversational class every other Friday evening, where papers are read by members, followed by observations from those present; a bible class on Sunday afternoon. Classes for the study of Mathematics, German, French, Latin, Greek, English, Literature, and Composition, Chemistry, Physiology, &c., which are conducted by efficient teachers. These classes are in connexion with the Society of Arts, and pupils are also prepared for the Oxford Cambridge middle-class school examinations. The library contains a good selection of standard works. The reading and news room is supplied with reviews, monthly magazines, and newspapers, and is open from half-past 8 a.m. to 10 p.m. The hon. secretaries are Mr. Alfred Goodman, Mr. Jas. Holroyd, Jun., Mr. Chas. S. Spence.

1855.—JAN.

JAN. 1st. In laying the foundation stone of the Leeds Town-hall, a sum of £226 0s. 9d. was incurred in giving proper effect to the ceremony, by flags, fireworks, music, &c. At a council meeting held this day, Mr. Titley so strongly objected to items amounting to £113 0s. 4½d., (and which Mr. Robt. Hall in an opinion, had stated to be illegal) that the amount was paid by several members of the council, through the town clerk. At the same meeting it was resolved by thirty one against five :—

“That the corporate common seal be affixed to an agreement for a lease of lands at Arthington, including certain rights and privileges, from William Sheepshanks, Esq., to the mayor, aldermen, and burgesses of the said borough, and to a duplicate thereof.”

The lease was to be for 5,000 years, of 11 acres, 3 roods, and 7 perches of land, required for the waterworks, in the neighbourhood of Arthington. The council were to pay a yearly rent of £180. In the agreement there was a stipulation, that the stokers, and others employed at the engines should not gain a settlement at Arthington,—that the village of Arthington should be supplied with 4,000 gallons of water per day, or 700,000 gallons in six months, &c.

On the evening of the 3rd of January, a serious accident occurred to a Great Northern Railway train, within a short distance of the Leeds Central Station, by which a passenger carriage was thrown from the viaduct, upon a goods waggon twenty seven feet below. The late Robert Hall, Esq., Recorder of Doncaster, and Deputy Recorder of Leeds, sustained injuries of the most extensive and dangerous character; whilst other passengers were injured, though not seriously. The accident was caused by some irregularities on the points, which threw the fore part of the train off the line. The carriage in which Mr. Hall was seated was the one to run over the viaduct. The carriage itself was a complete wreck, the roof, sides, and ends being broken into splinters, and scattered in all directions. Mr. Hall's injuries were, wound of the scalp, and severe bruise of the head, with fracture of the right arm, right thigh, left leg, and left fore arm, besides several other bruises. At the York assizes on the 21st of July following, Mr. Hall recovered £4,500 damages from the company.——8th. An Irishwoman named Mary Blessing, residing in Gay-lane, Otley, committed a most savage and brutal murder. Her victim was an old man 84 years of age, named Francis Blessing, the uncle of her husband. She killed the poor man by striking him on the head with a

1855.—JAN.

hammer. She was tried at York on the 14th of March following; found guilty of manslaughter, and sentenced to transportation for life.——11th. The Earl of Carlisle delivered a most eloquent lecture on “The Poetry of Gray,” at St. George’s Hall, Bradford, on behalf of the Early Closing Association of that town.——14th. Sir George Wombwell—whose ancestors resided for centuries at the old Hall at Wombwell, near Barnsley, and whose descendants still possess large estates in the township of Wombwell, Monk Bretton, &c.,—was found dead in his bed, at his town residence in George-street, Hanover-square. The deceased was in his 53rd year.——15th. A testimonial consisting of a purse containing £50, and a handsome silver tea and coffee service, was presented to Mr. William Pearson, assistant-librarian to the Leeds Mechanics’ Institution and Literary Society, by Mr. Richardson, mayor, on behalf of 361 members and subscribers, for valuable and faithful services rendered to the Institution during a period of ten years.

16th. A very strong frost commenced, and prevailed for about six weeks. The river Aire was frozen over, and afforded good skating above Leeds. Inland navigation was entirely suspended. The working classes in Leeds and other towns were subject to many privations, owing to the dearth of food and bad trade. In London 10,000 dock porters were out of employment, and such was their suffering that bread riots occurred at the east end of the town.

17th. Richard Cobden, Esq., M.P. for the West-Riding, addressed with great ability a large meeting of the inhabitants of Leeds, in the Coloured Cloth-hall yard, against the war with Russia. Francis Carbutt, Esq. presided. After Mr. Cobden’s address, J. G. Marshall, Esq., proposed, and Edward Baines, Esq. seconded the following resolution, which was carried in opposition to an amendment for peace, by a large majority :—

“That in the opinion of this meeting the war in which England and France are now engaged with Russia is a just contest, forced upon them by the outrageous aggression of the latter power, upon the Turkish empire, and is intended to check a spirit of aggrandizement on the part of the Czar, which threatens the independence of other nations; and this meeting is of opinion that the war ought to be prosecuted with the utmost vigour, until safe and honourable terms of peace can be obtained.”

19th. The Leeds Licensed Victuallers’ Protection Society held their first annual dinner at the White Horse Hotel, Boar-lane, Leeds, to which about 220 gentlemen sat down, under the presidency of Peter Fairbairn, Esq.

1855.—JAN.

21st. The Rev. Dr. Beaumont, an eminent minister of the Wesleyan body, died suddenly, whilst in the act of commencing service in Waltham-street chapel, Hull. The deceased was in the 61st year of his age, and the 42nd of his ministry.——29th. The Aberdeen ministry was defeated in the house of commons, by 305 to 148, in favour of Mr. Roebuck's motion for a committee of enquiry into the state of the army before Sebastopol, and into the conduct of the war department. The ministry resigned, and was succeeded by one with Lord Palmerston as first Lord of the treasury.

Feb. 20th. At the annual soiree of the Leeds Madrigal and Motet Society, held at St. George's national school, the members presented a very handsome testimonial to Mr. Spark, the founder and conductor of the society, consisting of a splendid time piece, with solid black marble pediment, with bronze bas-reliefs, and surmounted by a large figure of Sappho in bronze. An elegant ivory baton was also included in the testimonial.——20th. Lord John Russell left London to attend the peace conference at Vienna. On the same day died Joseph Hume, Esq., M.P. for Montrose, aged 78, one of the most upright and useful reformers this country ever possessed.

March 2nd. Nicholas, the Emperor of Russia died of apoplexy, after an attack of influenza. He was succeeded by his eldest son Alexander II.

The 21st of March was kept as a day of solemn fast, humiliation, and prayer.

30th. At a special meeting of the Leeds town council, a vote of thanks was passed to Mr. Smith, the borough treasurer, as follows:—

"That the thanks of this council are eminently due, and are hereby given to John Smith, Esq., for his valuable services during a period of eighteen years, as treasurer of the borough of Leeds."

At a previous meeting of the council it was decided to appoint a treasurer at a salary of £300 per annum, and at the present meeting Mr. William Whitehead, chief clerk to the Board of Works, was appointed to the office.

31st. Died in the 39th year of her age, Charlotte, the wife of the Rev. Arthur Bell Nicholls, and daughter of the Rev. Patrick Brontë, incumbent of Haworth, who under the name of Currer Bell, has established a lasting reputation as the authoress of *Jane Eyre*, *Shirley*, *Villette*, and other works. Her life is full of interest, as that of an intellectual woman combating with adverse fortune, and determined to win her way in the world. She tried in vain to obtain a sub-



1855 — MARCH.

sistence as a governess, and afterwards by keeping a school at Haworth. She then took to literature. As soon as she could write, she began to write tales, and at the age of fourteen had in manuscript twenty two volumes of her own composition. In 1846 she published a volume of poems, the joint composition of herself and her sisters Emily and Anne, under the title of "Poems by Currer, Ellis, and Acton Bell," the names being selected with a view to conceal their sex. In the following year she published *Jane Eyre*, a work that had an immense success, and thoroughly established her reputation. Her future works had also a ready and immense sale. She married on the last day of June, 1854, and on the last day of the following March, while her heart beat with the hopes of a mother, she was dead. "Oh, I am not going to die," were the last words she uttered to her husband, as she awoke from her stupor—"I am not going to die, am I? He will not separate us, we have been so happy." Her sisters Emily and Anne had preceded her to the grave, the former in 1848, and the latter in 1849.

Guardians of the poor for the township of Leeds, elected April 5th, 1855 :—

Those in brackets were elected.

EAST, [William Wray, and William Brown.] — KIRKGATE, [Richard Stead, and Thomas Phillips] — MILL-HILL, [John Patrick, 468. Leonard Hicks, 444, John Woodhead, 393,] Darnton Lupton, 173, Anthony Titley, 142. — NORTH, [Nathaniel Sharpe, and Samuel Myers.] — NORTH-EAST, [Samuel Lawson, 156, Wm. Middleton, 140,] Benjamin Dixon, 102, Richard Moat, 90. — NORTH WEST, [Richard Simpson, and David Newton] — SOUTH, [Win Chadwick, 131, William Kirk, 74,] William Jackson, 64. — WEST, [George Tatham, Thomas Tilney, and Henry Dufton.] Richard Stead was elected chairman.

April 17th to the 21st, the Emperor and Empress of the French, were on a visit to Queen Victoria at Windsor Castle. — 18th. The centenary Jubilee of the Moravian church, was celebrated at Fulneck. — On Sunday the 29th of April and the three following days, a series of highly interesting services and a soiree, took place in Queen-street chapel, Leeds, to commemorate the centenary of the formation of congregational independency in Leeds.

May 7th, Mr. George Thompson late M. P. for the Tower Hamlets, delivered a lecture in the Music-hall Leeds, on "The War, its antecedents, origin, results and probable issues," in which, he strongly urged the audience to unite in demanding, that the war should be abandoned as soon as pos-

1855.—MAY.

sible. On the motion of Mr. Councillor Carter, a resolution was carried, to prosecute the war with vigour until Russia gave a material guarantee against future aggression.

8th. 5,000 Sardinians under General Marmora arrived in the Crimea.——11th. The ceremony of laying the foundation stone of the new works at Arthington, for giving an additional supply of water to the borough of Leeds, by pumping from the river Wharfe, took place this day. The stone was laid by Mr. Alderman Hepper, chairman of the water works committee.——15th. The foundation stone of Saint Columba's church Woodhouse-lane, Leeds, in connexion with the synod of the Presbyterian church, in England, was laid by William Macleod, Esq. M.D., of Ben Rhydding. It is a handsome stone structure situated on an elevated position, and presents an object of architectural beauty, from various parts of the neighbourhood in which it stands. The style is the early English with a tower and spire.——18th. The Queen publicly distributed Crimean medals to 500 brave soldiers and sailors, who had returned from the seat of war, on the St. James' Parade, London.——30th. The eighteenth annual meeting of the Yorkshire Union of Mechanics' Institutes took place at York, under the presidency of Lord Goderich, M.P. On the following day a splendid banquet was given to his lordship by his constituents at Huddersfield.

From June 7th to the 18th, there was terrible fighting before Sebastopol. The Quarries, and the Mamelon, were both captured, but the assault of the Malakoff, and the Redan, was unsuccessful.

June 18th. From the report of the Sebastopol committee, brought into the House of Commons this day, it appeared that the army, during a period of several weeks, from the middle of November, 1854, was exposed to all the sufferings and inconveniences of cold, rain, mud, and snow, on high ground, and in the depth of winter,—that they had suffered from overwork, exposure, want of clothing, insufficient supplies for the healthy, and imperfect accommodation for the sick, the latter had not even the commonest necessities of life, even of bedding, as well as medicine and medicinal comforts,—that the hospitals at Scutaria were in a most filthy condition, that cargoes of goods sent to the Crimea had never arrived, and that the cargoes which had arrived could not be conveyed to the camp, for want of a road. After the hurricane in November the supply of forage failed, and under the combined effects of overwork, exposure, and want, the cavalry ceased to exist as an effective force. The

1855. — JUNE.

committee could not bring this great neglect home to anybody. It appeared to be more the system than the men. When the army landed in the Crimea, the Cabinet in England had expected that Sebastopol would have fallen immediately by a *coup de main*, a mistake that was shared in by the people generally. More than once the nation exulted at the downfall of Sebastopol, and in a few hours the news was found to be premature.

28th. Field Marshal Lord Raglan, died in the Crimea, aged 67. He was succeeded by General Simpson.

30th. The repeal of the newspaper stamp duty, came into operation this day, and caused a change in the price, and in many cases in the character of almost every newspaper in the kingdom. Daily penny papers were started at Manchester, Liverpool and other places. The Leeds Mercury was published from Tuesday the 3rd of July, three days in the week, namely, on Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday.

July 2nd. Some alarm having been created in the town of Leeds, by a proposed encampment of the militia on Woodhouse moor, a public meeting was held at the Court-house, at which the mayor presided, to pass resolutions to the Lords of the manor, asking them to withhold their sanction to such encampment.——The trustees of the Leeds Free Grammar School, with Dr. Hook as chairman, did great service to the cause of popular education, by extending the basis of the system of teaching at the school, so as to meet the needs of a class very numerous in the town. The new plan established two distinct departments, one with an extended course, comprising all the requisites of a first rate education ; the second requiring a shorter time, and seeking only to give a thorough grammatical and commercial training, to fit boys for trades, and the lower kinds of office work. In both departments, modern languages were to form a regular part of the school system.——16th. The *Leeds and Yorkshire Daily Express*, published by Mr. Frederick Hobson, was given up after a fourteen days existence.——18th. The Rev. S. Sunderland, vicar of Penistone, Yorkshire, was killed by the upsetting of an omnibus between Chatsworth and Rowsley.——23rd. There was a destructive thunderstorm and flood at Halifax and neighbourhood ; two lives were lost.——26th. The 112th annual Wesleyan Methodist Conference was held at Leeds.

31st. The House of Commons voted £10,000 to Captain M'Clure, and the crew of the *Investigator* for the discovery of the north-west passage.

855.—Aug.

August 2nd. The Hon. M. T. Baines, resigned the office of President of the Poor-law Board, owing to ill health.

9th. Sweaborg, in the Gulf of Finland, was pounded, burnt, and destroyed, by the fleets of England and France.

On the 16th of August, the long threatened attack of the Russians on the Tchernaya line took place, and ended in the complete defeat of the enemy, with the loss of 6,000 Russians, including 600 prisoners, whilst on the part of the French and Sardinians, it did not amount to more than 1,000 men.——18th. Queen Victoria and Prince Albert

arrived in Paris, on a visit to the Emperor of the French. Her Majesty and the Prince returned to England on the 27th.——18th. The erection and occupation of the new

Leeds Mercury Offices in Albion-street, was commemorated by a dinner at Gascoigne's Hotel, High Harrogate, given by the proprietors, to the staff in the several departments of the establishment.——30th. Died, aged 59, Mr. Feargus O'Connor, the once popular chartist leader.

On Wednesday, the 5th of September, the allied batteries opened for the sixth time on Sebastopol, and the LAST BOMBARDMENT commenced. At noon on the 8th, the great assault by the English and French took place. The French took the Malakoff, but the English were repulsed from the Redan. During the night, the Russians evacuated the north side of Sebastopol. They had stored up combustibles in the principal houses of the town, which they fired, so that they left the place a mass of blazing ruins. The siege had occupied eleven months, or from 17th of October, 1854, to 8th of September, 1855. The total loss of the allies on the 8th, was British killed 335, wounded 1,886, missing 176, total 2,447. French killed 1,634, wounded 4,513, missing 1,410, total 7,557. Total 10,004. Russians killed 2,684, wounded 7,245, missing 1,763, total 11,692.

Sept. 7th. Died, aged 82, Joshua Bower, Esq., at his residence, Hillidge House, Hunslet. The deceased was well known for the conspicuous part he had taken in most of the political movements of the present century, and was always a welcome speaker at public meetings, uttering sound truths in Saxon English, and accompanying them with illustrations at which the most fastidious were compelled to smile for their quaintness, and applaud for their point. Mr. Bower was a Radical in politics. He was a candidate for the representation of Leeds at the election of 1834, and obtained the largest show of hands on Woodhouse moor, but was defeated at the poll. He was a member of the town council for

1855.—SEPT.

the Hunslet ward, from the passing of the municipal reform act in 1835, and held the office of alderman for the borough from Nov. 1844. Mr. Bower was the architect of his own fortune, and succeeded in amassing a large fortune, and giving employment to hundreds of the inhabitants of Hunslet.——15th. Kirkstall Abbey was the scene of a most gratifying event—no less than 1,500 persons, consisting of the workpeople, and the families of the workpeople employed by the Kirkstall Forge Company, having assembled there, for the purpose of presenting a testimonial of respect and esteem to George Skirrow Beecroft, Esq., of Abbey House, on the occasion of his retirement from active partnership in the Kirkstall Forge Company. The testimonial consisted of a massive silver tureen, from the establishment of Messrs. Hirst, Briggate, and bore the following inscription :—

“Presented to George Skirrow Beecroft, Esq., by the workmen employed at Kirkstall Forge, as an expression of their respect, esteem, and sincere good wishes, on his retirement from the firm of Beecroft, Butler, and Co. Sept. 15th, 1855.”

On the 10th of September, the telegraph announced the news of the fall of Sebastopol, which produced the liveliest sensations in all parts of the kingdom. In Leeds the bells of the parish church rang a merry peal nearly all night. For several days the joy of the inhabitants was unbounded. Bands of music paraded the streets. In the evenings especially the excitement was very great, and an immense quantity of fireworks and coloured fires were let off in Briggate, and other streets. There was scarcely a warehouse, shop, or private house, without a banner or flag hung out ; many of them really handsome, and bearing appropriate devices and inscriptions. Two or three immense banners were hung across Briggate ; a monster tricoloured one was thrown across the north end of Leeds Bridge, bearing the words “Honour to the Allies.” Mr. Appleby exhibited in front of his shop in Briggate, the head of a bear, stuffed, and muzzled, with a flag suspended above it, inscribed “The Russian Bear muzzled at last.”

GRAND ILLUMINATION. — The mayor and town council recommended the inhabitants to illuminate their houses on Monday the 17th, in honour of the event, which was responded to with an alacrity that was little less than marvellous. Every street, every house, almost every window streamed forth light—sometimes in a blaze, sometimes in a

1855.—SKPT.

feeble flicker, sometimes nakedly, sometimes backed by graceful decorations, according as the wealth, taste, or opportunity of the occupier suggested. The principal streets were a blaze of light. Stars, crescents, the initials of the allied Sovereigns, the names consecrated by common victories, the heroes fallen in glorious fight,—these glowed in a thousand different devices and forms, from amidst the streaming banners that floated before the houses. Every public building cast its glare of light across the street. Inside and outside, by lamps, gas jets, candles,—by transparencies, or by brilliant devices, the joy of the people shone out in letters of light—everywhere their enthusiasm was manifested for the victory, their gratitude to the victors. The number of people assembled in the streets was really extraordinary, and the pressure was frequently almost unbearable; still every inconvenience was borne with the utmost cheerfulness and good temper. The vast masses “kept moving,” as well as circumstances would permit; and repeatedly and heartily cheered the best devices. Towards midnight the streets became easily passable; the illumination was at an end—one of the most memorable days that Leeds had seen, was numbered among the past. The rejoicings were not confined to the town alone, all the out-townships exhibited great joy and enthusiasm. Hunslet and Kirkstall deferred the illumination until the evening of the 18th, and Bramley until the evening following. Nearly about the same time there was scarcely a town or village in the kingdom, but what exhibited the same demonstrations of rejoicing.

28th. The Leeds town council passed a resolution by thirty four against seven, authorizing the moors and waste lands’ committee of the council:—

“To enter into a provisional agreement for the purchase of the rights of the Lords of the manor, in the parts of Woodhouse and Holbeck moors, at the price named, viz.:—For Woodhouse £3,000, and Holbeck £1,000; and also that application be made to parliament to authorise these purchases, and the purchase of the copyholds on Woodhouse moor, and to extinguish the alleged commonable rights on Woodhouse and Holbeck moors, and that in the same bill power be taken to purchase Hunslet moor; and that the cost of the respective purchases be charged upon the townships where the moors are situated.”

At the same meeting Mr. Edward Filliter was appointed borough surveyor, in the place of Mr. Tilney, resigned.

During a few days, about the end of Sept., an extraordinary plague of flies, (the black winged aphis) prevailed in different parts of the country. Persons who had occasion to



1855.—OCT.

travel between Headingley and Leeds, found it almost impossible to avoid having their nostrils and mouths filled with the insects. They adhered to the apparel so thickly, as completely to cover some parts of it.

Oct. 1st. Amongst the attractions at the Leeds Royal Gardens, this day, was a grand Baby Show, prizes being awarded to the possessors of the finest babies.

10th. The Leeds town council memorialized her majesty "to hear and inquire into the claims of Leeds, before any order be made, that the assizes and gaol deliveries for the West-Riding of Yorkshire be held at Wakefield instead of York." On the 17th, the Wakefield town council adopted a memorial in favour of their town.——22nd. Lord Wharncliffe died, aged 54, at his seat, Wortley-hall, near Sheffield. He was a nobleman of high character and spirit, and of excellent business talents. In 1841 he was returned for the West-Riding of Yorkshire, along with Mr. Beckett Denison, by a large majority over Lords Morpeth and Milton—having previously been twice defeated by Lord Morpeth. His eldest son, the Hon. E. M. Stuart Wortley, (who had married the second daughter of the Earl of Harewood,) succeeded to the title and estates.——On the same day died aged 45, Sir William Molesworth, secretary of state for the Colonies. From 1837 till 1841, he represented Leeds in conjunction with the late Mr. E. Baines. He was a man of a bold and energetic character, with great talents, extraordinary power of acquiring knowledge, a retentive memory, a logical head, and a strong taste for politics and public speaking. His scholarship and intellectual activity, is evinced by his translation of the Latin works of Hobbes the philosopher.

#### LEEDS MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS, NOVEMBER 1ST, 1855.

Those in brackets were elected.

MILL-HILL, [Anthony Titley, L, 296, Edwin Irwin, C, 296,] Henry Ludolf, L, 274, Thomas Newsam, C, 274.——WEST, [George Brook, L, 610, J. O. March, L, 322,] John Ardill, R, 303.——NORTH-WEST, [J. M. Barret,]——NORTH, [William Watson, L, 364,] W. T. Bolland, C, 345.——NORTH-EAST, [Benjamin Dixon, C,]——EAST, [Samuel Idle, C, 517,] Joseph Lobley, L, 516.——KIRKGATE, [Charles Crabtree, C, 189,] Samuel Higgins, L, 137.——SOUTH, [William Kirk, L,]——HUNSLET, [Enoch Blackburne, L,]——HOLBECK, [Thos. Sheldon, L, and R. L. Armstrong, L,]——BRAMLEY, [Samuel Musgrave, L, and Matthew Moss, L,]——HEADINGLEY, [Robert White, C,]

Nov. 9th. Thomas Willington George, Esq., was elected mayor.

Sept. 24th. West Ward, *vice* T. W. George, made an alderman in place of Mr. Bower deceased, [James Reffitt, L,]



1855.—Nov.

Nov. 6th. This was a memorable day in the annals of Bradford, occasioned by the inauguration of the statue of the late Sir Robert Peel, by Behens the eminent sculptor. It is of bronze and is 11ft. 6in. high; was cast in one mass at the foundry of Messrs. Robinson and Tatham of London. It stands upon a circular pedestal of Bramley stone resting upon an octagon, and bearing the simple inscription "Peel." The pedestal is 13 feet high, and was erected by Messrs. Burnley and Sons, Bradford. The number of persons present to witness the ceremony was computed at 30,000. The total cost of the memorial was £3,200, viz. £1,000 for the statue and £2,200 for the land, &c.

9th. The corporate common seal of the borough of Leeds was affixed to an agreement between the Lords of the manor, and the mayor, aldermen, and burgesses of the borough, for the sale and purchase of Woodhouse moor.——19th. One of the most admirable exhibitions of works of art, articles of *vertu*, and specimens of art-workmanship, ever held in Leeds, was opened at the School of Practical Art, South-parade, by a *conversazione*, presided over by Dr. Hook, which was attended by members of most of the leading families of the town. The two rooms devoted to the works of decorative art, and articles of *vertu*, from the private collection of her majesty, and the museum of Marlborough House, caused the most attraction.——31st. The Wellington statue was placed in front of the Leeds Town-hall.

Dec. 4th. Sir Joseph Paxton, M.P., read a paper before the members of the Leeds Philosophical Society, "On the growth of London, and other large towns, with suggestions for their better architectural arrangement, internal communication, and sanitary improvement."

5th. St. Barnabas' church, Sweet-street, Holbeck, was consecrated by the Lord Bishop of Ripon. It is a Gothic structure, in the middle pointed or decorated style of architecture. It was built at a cost of £3,000. The stone pulpit, font, and other fittings, are exceedingly chaste and appropriate. There are 700 sittings, with stalls in the chancel, and a great proportion of the seats are free. The windows are glazed with tinted cathedral glass, and after daylight, the edifice is lighted up by sun lights in the centre roofs, probably the first instance in which this mode of lighting has been applied to an ecclesiastical building in this part of the country. The pulpit was presented by the parishioners, and the font by the children and teachers of the day and Sunday-schools. The living is a perpetual curacy,

1855.—DEC.

valued at £150, in the alternate patronage of the crown and the Bishop of Ripon, and in the incumbency of the Rev. N. Greenwell, B.A.——The inhabitants of Leeds were subject to considerable inconvenience, from a restricted supply of water, the water being given only two or three times a week.——The Leeds West-end People's Institute was formed, mainly through the exertions of Mr. Hole, assisted by the subscriptions of the West-end employers and others.

1856. Jan. 3rd. Died, aged 55, Mr. Cawthra, a vocalist who for many years occupied the position of principal tenor in Leeds.——12th. The piano forte manufactory of Messrs. J. and J. Hopkinson, (of Leeds,) situate in Diana-place, New-Road-street, Marylebone, London, was completely destroyed by fire, with a large stock of instruments, and all the workmen's tools. In about a fortnight after the fire, the eastern and south-eastern walls of the premises were blown down by the wind, destroying three houses, and injuring several persons, besides killing a poor woman named Saunders.——12th. A murderous conflict took place between a gang of robbers, who were breaking into Messrs. Crowther and Co's., woollen mill, Churwell, and a party of constables and their assistants. The latter succeeded in taking four of the thieves, namely John Briggs, William Cain, John Pickard, and James Marsden, who were each sentenced to eight years penal servitude, at York, on the 14th of March following. In the affray, David Steel, one of the thieves was shot in the thigh, and died in about twenty four hours after.——14th. Three young men of respectable connexions, named John Jennings, Henry Bailey, and Samuel Allen, were brought before the Leeds magistrates on a charge of breaking into the nunnery, Cross-green-lane, York-road. They had been drinking at public houses until late, and for a lark made a midnight intrusion into the nunnery. The affair was settled on their agreeing to pay £5 each to the Infirmary.

21st. Died, aged 75, Benjamin Gaskell, Esq., of Thornes House, Wakefield. A monument has been erected in West-gate chapel to his memory, by his son Milnes Gaskell, Esq., M.P. It was executed by Bedford, of London, and consists of a tablet in white marble on black, surmounted by the family crest, and bears the following inscription:—

“To the honoured and lamented memory of Benjamin Gaskell, Esq. of Thornes House, for many years one of the representatives in par-

1856.—JAN.

liament of the borough of Maldon. Born Feb. 28th, 1781, died Jan. 21st, 1856. Liberal, compassionate, single-minded, gentle, unassuming, true; he was held in respect and affection by all who knew him, during a long and blameless life. This tablet is erected by his sorrowing and loving son."

22nd. A splendid banquet was given at Halifax, in honour of Captain Stocks, of the 1st Royal Dragoons, for his gallantry in the Crimea.——26th. Died, aged 67, William Williams Brown, Esq., of Leeds. He was well known as being the head of one of the only two private banking establishments now remaining in Leeds. Between forty and fifty years ago he joined in establishing the firms of Nicholson, Brown, and Co., of Leeds, and Nicholson, Janson, and Co., London; and he subsequently became the head of the firms of Wm. Wms. Brown, and Co., and Brown, Janson, and Co., which succeeded them, and which are now in deserved repute, as among the most respectable banking houses in the country. Mr. Brown was a very judicious, cautious, and skilful banker. He was of very courteous manners, but of a retiring disposition. He was a magistrate for the borough of Leeds, and also for the West-Riding.

26th. Died suddenly, after entering a cab, aged 51. Mr. John Beckwith, clerk to the Leeds Board of Guardians. He was a man of considerable ability, which was displayed both in his writing for the press, and in his management of the business of the poor law guardians. He was formerly the reporter to the Leeds Intelligencer, and was one of the oldest reporters in the town. As a local politician he exercised considerable influence amongst the conservative party. Mr. Henry Lampen was appointed clerk in his place, on the 13th of February following.

30th. A testimonial consisting of a very handsome time-piece, accompanied with silver tea and coffee pot and salver, was presented to Mr. Snowden, solicitor, Leeds, by the shareholders of the Leeds Commercial Banking Company, bearing the following inscription:—

"Presented with silver tea and coffee pot, and salver, to Henry Snowden, Esq., solicitor, by directors, and other proprietors of 'The Leeds Commercial Banking Company,' (dissolved January 30th, 1856) in testimony of their high estimation of his professional services."

Feb. Died, aged 83, in the Infirmary of the Queen's Bench Prison, John Dufreni, for many years a merchant in Leeds. He had been confined in prison forty three years, for having refused to answer questions under a commission of bankruptcy taken out against him.——4th. The organ,

1856.—FEB.

and a great part of the roof of Beeston church, were destroyed by fire. The disaster was attributed to the overheating of the flues.——6th. The re-election for Leeds, of the Rt. Hon. M. T. Baines, rendered necessary by his acceptance on the 24th of Nov. previous, of the office of Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster, took place this day in the Coloured Cloth-hall yard. Mr. Alderman Shaw proposed, and Mr. Alderman Wilson seconded the nomination. No other candidate being proposed he was declared to be duly elected.——13th. The corporate common seal of the borough of Leeds, was affixed to an agreement with the vicar of Leeds, for dedicating part of Regent-street to public use; and that part of Regent-street which extends from Lilac-terrace to Skinner-lane, was declared to be a public highway.

27th. The congregation and friends of the Rev. Wm. Hudswell, pastor of Salem Independent chapel, and the senior congregational minister at this time officiating in Leeds, invited him to the Stock Exchange, Albion-street, for the purpose of presenting him with a testimonial of their esteem. The presentation was prefaced by a tea, to which about 200 persons sat down. The testimonial consisted of a very handsome silver tray, tea and coffee pots, cream ewer, and sugar basin; together with a handsome silk purse containing 100 guineas. The plate cost forty eight guineas, and bears the following inscription:—

“This richly chased Louis Quatorze pattern silver tea and coffee service, with a purse of 100 guineas, were presented to the Rev. W. Hudswell, by the church and congregation assembling in Salem chapel, as a mark of their high esteem, and in grateful acknowledgement of his long and faithful services as their pastor, during a period of twenty three years. Leeds, Feb 27th, 1856.”

A purse of thirty guineas was also presented to Mrs. Hudswell.

March 1st. Harriet Dove, daughter of Mr. Jenkins of Bramhope, aged 28, the wife of William Dove, Cardigan-place, Kirkstall-road, Leeds, died in great agony, under circumstances which left no doubt but that she had been poisoned. A *post mortem* examination by Mr. Morley, and Mr. Nunnely, surgeons, showed clearly that she had died from the effects of strychnia. Mr. Dove, the husband, was taken into custody on suspicion of having administered the poison. After a four days' inquest before John Blackburn, Esq., borough coroner, the jury returned the following verdict:—  
“We find that Harriet Dove has died from the effects of strychnia, wilfully administered by her husband William

1856 — MARCH.

Dove." He was accordingly committed to York castle on a charge of wilful murder. The trial commenced on the 16th of July, before Baron Bramwell. The counsel for the prosecution were Mr. Overend, Q.C., Mr. Hardy, and Mr. Bailey. For the defence, Mr. Bliss, Q.C., Mr. Serjeant Wilkins, Mr. Hall, and Mr. Middleton. The prosecution was got up by Bertie Markland, Esq., of Leeds. J. M. Barrett, Esq., of Leeds had the management of the prisoners defence. The trial occupied four days. The evidence of the prosecution established beyond doubt, that the prisoner had caused his wife's death by a series of five or six doses of strychnia, administered during as many days. It was shown that the prisoner had lived unhappily with his wife—that he had treat her at times with the greatest cruelty—that he had consulted Harrison the wizard, as to getting rid of her—that he had got strychnia twice or three times from Mr. Morley's surgery, under the pretence that he wanted to poison cats—that he administered five times the subtle drug, on the sixth occasion it proved fatal. During the week that he watched the agonies of his wife, he pretended to be in the greatest distress; wept over, and lamented her certain death. The defence set up was mainly one of insanity, and a large number of witnesses were called to speak to the numberless wild and crazy acts committed by the prisoner from his earliest years, such as :—his chasing his sisters with a red hot poker,—his setting fire to the curtains of his bed-room—his tormenting of cats and kittens—his buying a pistol at twelve years of age to shoot his father, and his schoolmaster—his attempt to poison his master's horses, &c., &c. The jury found the prisoner *guilty* of wilful murder; but recommended him to mercy on the ground of defective intellect. The learned judge in pronouncing sentence of death, cautioned him not to expect that his life would be spared, although he would forward the recommendation of the jury to the proper quarter. No effort was spared by the prisoners' solicitor and others to obtain a commutation of the sentence, but the Home Secretary declined to interfere. The unfortunate man was executed in front of York castle, at noon, on Saturday the 9th of August, having previously made a full confession of his guilt, stating that he was instigated to commit the crime by Harrison the fortune teller. He had been most carefully and respectably brought up, and was the son of the late Mr. Christopher Dove, of Park-square, Leeds.

5th. The corporate seal of the borough of Leeds was affixed to agreements with millowners and others on the Wharfe,

1856.—MARCH.

by which power was granted to take two and a half million gallons of water from the river per day, for which the council was to pay an aggregate compensation of £9,685. The town council on the same day decided by twenty seven to eight, to erect a tower to the Town-hall, the cost of which, including the warming and ventilation of the hall, would be £11,061. It was also decided to grant £1,000 on account of the expense of obtaining the new improvement act.

12th. Died, aged 57, John Wilkinson, Esq., of Gledhow Mount, the head of the firm of John Wilkinson, and Co., flax spinners, of Hunslet, and one of the Leeds borough magistrates. Mr. Wilkinson was remarkable for his eminent business talents, by means of which he raised himself from a comparatively humble position, to be the head of one of the first manufacturing establishments in Leeds. He possessed great sagacity, a clear and calm judgment, indefatigable industry, and a very enterprising spirit. He was a man of the highest honour and integrity, remarkable for a warm hearted and open handed benevolence, and for zeal on behalf of the moral and intellectual welfare of the numerous workpeople in his mills. For their benefit he erected excellent schools, which he sustained in a state of great efficiency, and at considerable expense to himself. The flax mills called Hunslet Mills, were built by him, and are models of order and cleanliness. He was intelligently alive to all questions of public interest, and was a liberal in politics.

16th. The empress of the French gave birth to a son.

A fire took place at the Leeds Industrial School, whereby one wing of the building was destroyed. It was caused by four of the girls, inmates of the establishment, having thrust lighted matches into the aperture for ventilating the school-room. —24th. The first stone of the Castle Howard Reformatory School was laid by Lady Mary Labouchere.

25th. The foundation stone of Springfield Independent chapel at Dewsbury, was laid by Mr. E. Baines, of Leeds.

26th. An Institution was founded at Halifax, known as the Haley-hill Working Man's College. —30th. The treaty of peace between Russia and the Allies was signed this day. The news of the event caused hearty rejoicings throughout the kingdom.

April 1st. At an influential meeting in Leeds, a committee was appointed to consider the best means of forming a juvenile reformatory.

856.—APRIL.

Guardians of the Poor of the township of Leeds, elected April 5th, 1856.

Those in brackets were elected.

EAST, [William Brown, 166, William Wray, 158,] Henry Alexander Patterson, 110, John Thompson, 103.—KIRKGATE, [Richard Stead, 279, Charles Crabtree, 218,] Thomas Phillips, 101, John Brown, 43, George Atha Linsley, 15, Thomas Greenbow, 7. —MILL-HILL, [Wm. Booth, 387, Leonard Hicks, 368, William Clarke, 347,] Anthony Tittley, 143, Robert Lawson Ford, 137, Thos. Edward Flint, 111.—NORTH, [Nathaniel Sharpe, 281, Samuel Myers, 215,] Thomas Cogill, 84, Richard Myers, 77, James Croisdale, 74.—NORTH-EAST, [Samuel Lawson, and William Middleton,]—NORTH WEST, [David Newton, and Henry Bailey Legg,]—SOUTH, [William Kirk, 92, Hargreaves Hudson, 81,] Edwin Bray, 58, Silvester Frazer Jones, 4.—WEST, [John Woodhead, 436, Richard William Moore, 436, Henry Dufton, 435,] George Tatham, 291, Thomas Tilney, 285, George Brook, 260, William Holroyd, 192, William Longley, 167, William Fynn, 120. Richard Stead was elected chairman.

9th. The poor law board ordered the Rev. Solomon Briggs, chaplain at the Leeds Industrial School and workhouse, to resign, for not having shown proper respect to the guardians. —11th. Lord John Russell's scheme for a system of national education, was defeated by a majority of 102 on the first resolution:—"That it is expedient to extend, revise, and consolidate the minutes of the committee of Privy Council on Education." —The works of the Leeds Town-hall were stopped, in consequence of a misunderstanding between Mr. Attack, the contractor, and Mr. Brodrick, the architect. —21st. A meeting of trustees of the Leeds Free Grammar School, and parents of youths' under instruction, was held at the Grammar School, for the purpose of considering the propriety of erecting a new, commodious, and handsome building, with large play ground attached, on a new and more healthy site. A resolution was adopted recommending the change. —25th. In the new parish of Haley-hill, Halifax, a burial ground was consecrated by the Lord Bishop of Ripon, and the corner stone of All Saint's church was laid by Edward Akroyd, Esq. The ground for the church and cemetery was given by Mr. Akroyd, and the cost of the cemetery chapel, as also the erection of the church was defrayed by the same gentleman.

29th. The following gentlemen were appointed by the Lord Chancellor on the new commission of peace, for the borough of Leeds, viz. :—

Joseph Austin, Joseph Bateson, Charles Chadwick, M.P., Henry



1856 — APRIL.

Chorley, John Ellershaw, jun., Peter Fairbairn, Thomas Willington George, Edward Irwin, James Kitson, John Wil-son, Richard Harrison, John Crofts, Thomas Pridgin Teale, and Joseph Mason Tenant.

This list was the same as the one recommended by the town council on the 31st of October, 1855, with the exception of the last four named gentlemen, who had been substituted by the Lord Chancellor, in the place of Joseph Richardson, W. E. Hepper, Robert White, and Richard Wilson.

May. A beautiful marble bust of the late Benjamin Gott, Esq., placed upon a pedestal, executed by Mr. Joseph Gott, of Rome, was presented to the Leeds Philosophical and Literary Society, by his sons John and William Gott, Esqrs. to commemorate the great interest which was taken by the deceased gentleman in the early foundation, and subsequent success of the society. —2nd. The Leeds Musical Union was dissolved.

Sunday the 4th of May was observed in all churches as a day of thanksgiving for the return of peace. On the 5th, Bramley, near Leeds, took the initiative in the peace rejoicings in the neighbourhood of Leeds, by an illumination, &c. On the same day the official proclamation of peace took place at Bradford, with imposing formalities. The event was celebrated in Leeds on the 8th of May, and the day was observed as a general holiday. About one o'clock in the afternoon a grand military display, under the command of Major Pipon, R.A., took place on Woodhouse moor, in the presence of (it was computed) at least one hundred thousand persons. In the evening a grand illumination took place, surpassing in splendour, that of September in the previous year. The great centre of the illumination was in Briggate, which from half-past eight to half-past ten o'clock, presented a scene of dazzling brilliancy. Albion-street, Boar-lane, Commercial-street, Park-row, and other streets, however, had transparencies and gas devices, fully equal to any other part of the town. The display of flags and banners in the various streets of the town was immense. During the illumination, the principal streets were greatly crowded. Boar-lane was completely impassable—thousands of persons being frequently jammed together, incapable of either advancing or retreating, so that a many persons were seriously injured in this street. Taken as a whole, the illumination was a spectacle that will be long remembered for its splendour and brilliancy. —13th. The peace rejoicings and illumination took place at Hunslet, near Leeds, and amongst the at-

1856.—MAY.

tractions at this place, an ox was roasted whole on Hunslet moor, and two sheep in Pottery-field, which were distributed amongst the people.—The rejoicings in celebration of peace, took place at Bradford on the same day.

On Whit-Tuesday, the 13th of May, a great gathering of the Sabbath schools of Halifax and its neighbourhood, took place in the spacious Piece-hall of that town, the occasion of the assembling being to hold a fifth commemoration of the Sunday School Jubilee, of 1831. The display was altogether unique. There was an aggregate of more than 20,000 Sunday scholars, with above 4,000 of their teachers, between eight and nine hundred musicians, and 8,000 spectators. The event will long be remembered in Halifax.

14th. The Leeds town council voted an address of congratulation to the Queen, on the close of the war with Russia.——14th and 15th. Louis Kossuth, the illustrious ex-governor of Hungary, gave two lectures at St. George's Hall, Bradford, on "The Austrian Concordat, with special reference to Hungary in general, and the Protestantism of Hungary in particular; its general political bearing and probable results." The same lectures were given in the Music-hall, Leeds, on the 16th and 17th, the chair being occupied on the first night by Mr. Alderman Carbutt, and the second night by Edward Baines, Esq.——19th. The peace rejoicings at Kirkstall took place this day.

On Sunday afternoon the 25th of May, and every fine Sunday during the summer months, a band of music performed sacred and operatic music on Woodhouse moor, Leeds. A strong protest against the proceedings was made by the various religious bodies of the town.——27th. William Palmer of Rugley, was convicted, after a fourteen days trial at the Central Criminal Court, London, before Lord Campbell, of the wilful murder of John Parson Cook, by administering strychnia. The trial excited the deepest interest and feeling throughout the kingdom. He was executed at Stafford on the 14th of June. Dove, the Leeds murderer, was said to have imitated Palmer in his method of getting rid of his victim—that is in the use of strychnia.

28th. The Ilkley Wells Hydropathic Establishment was opened this day. It is a splendid building, situated on an eminence just above the village of Ilkley. It is the property of a joint stock company, and cost more than £30,000. The mansion with its terraces is a spacious and most beautiful structure, in the Italian palazzo style, from a design by Mr. Brodrick. It is replete with every convenience, and contains

1856.—MAY.

a noble dining-room, calculated to dine comfortably from 80 to 100 guests, a large public drawing-room, a private drawing-room for ladies only, a coffee-room for general visitors, or those not wishing to join the company at the table d'hôte, a billiard-room, thirteen private sitting rooms, and six bath-rooms, &c., &c.

29th. The peace rejoicings and illuminations in London, and in many parts of the country, took place, and by a happy coincidence it was the Queen's birth-day. In the surrounding villages, both in the borough of Leeds, and beyond its borders, the day was observed as a high holiday, and fêtes of various kinds took place.

In the beginning of June, a great inundation took place in France, by which a surface of country equal to 1,000 English miles was under water. Forty thousand habitations were destroyed, and an immense quantity of crops which were approaching maturity, were completely cut down. The loss sustained in the single item of crops, was said to be not less than six millions of pounds sterling. A great deal of sympathy towards the sufferers was felt in England, and public meetings were held in most large towns (Leeds, on 1st of July,) for the purpose of raising subscriptions for their relief.—4th. A very destructive fire occurred on the premises of Messrs. Trumble and Co., paper-hanging manufacturers, York-street, Leeds. The fire raged from ten o'clock at night, till nearly four next morning. The whole interior, and contents of the engine house, boiler house, machine rooms, and workshops above, were destroyed from the floor to the roof—including valuable printing and embossing machines, engine materials, &c. The origin of the fire was unknown.—16th. The village of Ilkley was this day the scene of a most painful occurrence. A Mrs. M'Knight who was staying at the Hydropathic establishment at Ben Rhydding, left that place about ten o'clock in the morning, for a walk, and proceeded to Ilkley. About twelve o'clock she left Ilkley to return to Ben Rhydding, taking the road across the Cow-pastures. From the moment of leaving Ilkley, the hapless lady was never seen alive. Between four and five o'clock in the afternoon, two persons in passing along the Cow-pastures, observed the body of Mrs. Knight lying nearly at the bottom of the ravine. She was lying upon her side, with her arms on her chest and stomach, quite dead. Her dress was not at all disordered or soiled, and her body exhibited but slight marks of external injury. It was strongly suspected that she met her death by some

1856.—JULY.

gipsies, who were seen in the neighbourhood about the time, and this suspicion had an air of probability, from the fact that her purse and pocket handkerchief were gone. From superficial marks on the neck, it was strongly suspected that she had been murdered by strangulation. The affair however remains a mystery.

July 24th. The fourth regiment of Dragoon Guards—who took such a conspicuous part in the glorious charge of the heavy brigade at Balaklava, and otherwise distinguished themselves in the Crimean campaign,—arrived in Leeds, and met with a public and hearty reception from the inhabitants. The procession was the most imposing probably ever witnessed in Leeds, and its length was so great that it occupied fully half an hour in passing a given point. Along the whole route, the dragoons met with a most enthusiastic greeting from the immense concourse of people in the streets, the crowds filling every window, covering every platform, and occupying hundreds of roofs. The houses and shops were profusely decorated with flags and banners. On the arrival of the procession at the barracks, at two o'clock, Colonel Hodge, the officers, and about 200 hundred civilians sat down to luncheon in a handsome pavilion, erected for the purpose in the Barrack-yard. The mayor occupied the chair. A dinner was also given in the Riding school, to 400 non-commissioned officers and men of the 4th Dragoon Guards, Royal Artillery, the 4th West York Militia Staff, &c., &c.

Shortly after midnight, on Friday the 25th of July, a most disastrous and appalling railway accident took place at the Church Fenton Station, on the Leeds and York division of the North Eastern Railway. The catastrophe was caused by some irregularity in giving the customary signal, that the line was clear, by reason whereof a goods train ran into a passenger train, shivering one second, and three third class carriages into fragments, killing two of the passengers, viz., John Coupland, of Clifford, near Thorparch, and Godfrey Brain, of Tadcaster, besides injuring about twenty others, some of them seriously. The coroners' jury returned a verdict of manslaughter against George Spivey, the signal-man. At the winter assizes, a verdict of not guilty was returned.

Aug. 9th. An extraordinary fall of rain caused great floods in various parts of Yorkshire, and also a serious loss of life and property. At Leeds during the day nearly two inches of rain, or about a quart fell in every twelve square inches.

26th. The second triennial musical festival took place at Bradford, under the direction of Mr. Costa. Mr. William

1856.—AUG.

Jackson of Bradford was the chorus master. —28th. Died at his residence Grove House, Burmantofts, Leeds, in his 78th. year, Mr. John Heaps, who for upwards of half a century took a prominent part in the political, ecclesiastical, and municipal affairs of the borough. The deceased was a radical in politics and in religion a Wesleyan. —30th. Major General the Earl of Cardigan, K.C.B., was entertained at a grand banquet in the hall of the Stock Exchange Albion-street, Leeds, and was presented with a splendid sword of honour which had cost about 250 guineas. The sword is an elegantly chased Mameluke dress sabre, with gold cross handle, and having two entablatures enamelled on the gold in the centre of the cross. The grip is gold, elegantly chased, and terminated by a tigers' head. The scabbard is double, the outer one being elaborately chased and ornamented in silver gilt, and pierced. The blade itself is embossed very chastely, and bears on one side the inscription, "Major General the Earl of Cardigan, K.C.B." and on the other, "Presented by the inhabitants of Yorkshire." The enamelled entablatures on the handle contain—one, the arms of the noble earl :—the other, the cavalry charge at Balaklava on the 25th. of Oct. 1854, with a portrait of his lordship dashing forward in the attack upon the Russian guns in position, and the inscription of "Balaklava, 1854." The sword knot is gold wire, and the belt slings are in gold wire and gold embroidery. The sword is enclosed in a mahogany case lined with white satin. G. S. Beecroft, Esq. had the honour of presenting the sword on behalf of the subscribers.

30th. The registrar of births for the Rothwell district, registered four children, two girls and two boys of John and Mary Jane Tomlinson of Thwaite. All the children died within seven hours of their birth, and were interred together in one coffin in Rothwell church yard. [A curious case of twin births is recorded in the register of the Leeds parish church as follows:—"Buried 1764, January 31st. Henry and Elizabeth son and daughter of John Ripley. These being the *fifth double burden* that John Ripley's wife has born to him one after another."]

Sept. 3rd. Mr. Roebuck, M.P., for Sheffield, was presented by his constituents with a purse of 1,100 guineas, as a mark of respect. —4th. Mons. St. Amant, the French champion chess player, defeated three of the strongest players in the Leeds chess club, viz., Messrs. Rhodes, Cadman, and Millard. —11th. A shocking murder was committed in mid-day, at the Malt Mill Inn, Armley, near Leeds, the victim being a young woman named Jane Ban-

1856.—SEPT.

ham, the principal dancer at Wild's travelling theatre, then at Armley, and the murderer a tailor named John Haunah, of Manchester. The two had formerly lived together as man and wife, and it was her refusal to accompany him back to Manchester, that had incited him to commit the dreadful deed. So determined had he been to cause her death, that he had nearly severed her head from her body. He was committed to York on a charge of wilful murder, and was tried on the 13th of December; found guilty, and sentenced to death. He was executed on the 27th of December.

17th. A dreadful accident occurred in the frame shop of Messrs. Wilson and Co's., foundry, Hunslet, by the breaking of a crane, which was lifting a marine engine. Simon Smith, one of the workmen was killed upon the spot, and John Goodhall, James Downing, Reuben Tyson, were seriously injured, and two others also received injury. Downing died in a few days after the accident.

On Sunday evening the 19th of September, a dreadful panic seized the congregation assembled to hear the Rev. C. H. Spurgeon, at the Music-hall, in the Surrey Gardens, London, caused by some one making a false alarm that the place was on fire. The hall was immensely crowded at the time, and on the cry being raised, crowds rushed to every door and outlet. Persons from the galleries in large masses fled to the stairs, and unfortunately the balustrading of the staircase gave way, precipitating several persons, five of whom were immediately killed. Six persons altogether were killed, and more than 200 received injuries more or less severe.——20th. The third anniversary of the inaugural festivities at Saltaire took place, when Titus Salt, Esq., entertained 3,000 of his operatives with a *fete champetre*, in his picturesque park at Crow Nest, near Halifax, and to a *soiree musicale* in the evening, at St. George's Hall, Bradford. The workpeople availed themselves of the occasion to present to Mr Salt a splendid marble bust, and appropriate pedestal of the same material, provided by their united subscriptions, as a lasting testimony of regard and esteem. The testimonial was executed by Mr. T. Milnes, sculptor, of London, and designed by Mr. Lobley, of Bradford, and is an exceedingly chaste and splendid work of art. It has been thus described:—

“It consists of a life-like bust in pure white Carrara marble of Mr. Salt, resting upon an octagonal grey marble pedestal, standing upon a sub-plinth of the same material, which bears appropriate and allegorical figures. The height of the whole work of art is six feet six

1856.—SEPT.

inches. On the front of the pedestal are depicted the arms of Mr. Salt; at the base, on one side is the figure of an alpaca, on the other that of a goat; they are both *couchant*, and the foot and leg of the alpaca overwraps a gushing cornucopia, which overhangs the base beneath the coat of arms. At the foot of the pedestal, in the centre, is a view of the magnificent works at Saltaire. At the back of the pedestal is the inscription, "Presented to Titus Salt, Esq., by the workpeople in his employment, as a token of their respect and esteem. Saltaire, Sept. 20th, 1856."

21st. More than £2,000 damage was done by a fire, which broke out in Messrs. Bapty's timber yard, Wellington-street, Leeds.——23rd. The Lord Bishop of Ripon laid the first stone of the new schools in connexion with the Leeds parish church. They were formally opened by the Bishop, on the 6th of April, 1858.——23rd. A banquet was given to William Murgatroyd, Esq., in the saloon of St. George's Hall, Bradford, by the corporation of that town.——Dr. Longley, the Bishop of Ripon, was appointed to the see of Durham. The Rev. Robert Bickersteth, rector of St. Giles', London, was appointed to his place.

29th. The Leeds town council granted £2,600 for warming and ventilating the Town-hall, on the plan of Messrs. Haddan, and granted a sum not exceeding £5,000 for an organ for the same building.

Oct. 14th. Jeremiah Milnes, a fish-hawker, was barbarously murdered by some one on the highway between Leeds and Bradford.——16th. Felice Orsini, the Italian exile, (who was executed in 1858, for an attempt on the life of the Emperor of the French,) gave a lecture at the Leeds Music-hall, "On the Austrians in Italy."——30th. Mr. Henry Harrison, the fortune teller of Leeds, who figured in the case of Dove the murderer, was sentenced to nine months imprisonment in the House of Correction, for having obtained money by false pretences from Eliza Croft, and also violating her person. On the 8th of November he was also committed to York on a charge of bigamy, and was sentenced at the York assizes, on the 9th of December, to be kept in penal servitude four years.

24th. A very handsome testimonial was presented to Mr. Richard Bissington, Briggate, Leeds, in the council chamber of the Court-house, by Sir George Goodman, M.P., on behalf of the West-Riding Trade Protection Society. The testimonial consists of a large rich orimulu clock, beautifully chaste, and surmounted by two figures representing Spring and Autumn; and a service of plate, including tea and cof-



1856.—Oct.

fee service, and a cake basket, weighing altogether 107 ozs. The whole sum raised for the testimonial was £110. On the clock, and each piece of plate, the following inscription is engraved :—

“Presented by 170 members of the West-Riding Trade Protection Society to Mr. Richard Bissington, one of the Vice-Presidents, in acknowledgement of valuable services rendered for the interest of the institution, as acting chairman of the central committee, during a period of eight years. Oct. 24th, 1856.”

29th. At Baildon, near Bradford, a serious attack was made upon Mr. Taylor, manufacturer, and his property, by a mob of about 2,000 factory operatives, in consequence of him having introduced into his mill the two loom system. The damage to property was about £200. Several of the ringleaders were sent to the House of Correction, for being concerned in the riot.

Nov. 1st. The old factory at Folly-hall, Huddersfield, was completely destroyed by fire.

## LEEDS MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS, NOVEMBER 1ST, 1856.

Those in brackets were elected.

MILL-HILL, [Joseph Middleton, L. and Joseph Gill, L.]—WEST, [James Relfit, L. 993, Joseph Wright, C. 815,] John Ardill, R. 451.—NORTH-WEST, [David Newton, L.]—NORTH, [William Mawson, L.]—NORTH-EAST, [John Kaye, L. 522,] William Middleton, C. 459.—EAST, [Joseph Lobley, L. 295,] John Ardill, R. 5, Richard Stead, C. 5, William Wray, C. 2.—KIRKGATE, [Richard Stead, C. 222,] Edmund Stead, L. 108, William Wray, C. 31.—SOUTH, [John Neill, L.]—HUNSLET, [Joshua Bower, L. 883,] William Parker, R. 584.—HOLBECK, [Robert Meek Carter, R. 1,442, W. J. Ellingworth, L. 1,378,] Benjamin Whooley, L. 462, Robert Coxon, L. 402, Let Croisdale, C. 15.—BRAMLEY, [Joseph Winn, L. and Joseph Haley, L.]—HEADINGLEY, [George Skirrow Beecroft, C.]

Nov. 9th. John Botterill, Esq., was elected mayor.

The following were elected aldermen :—

John Botterill. Sir George Goodman. T. W. George, C. G. Maclea, W. E. Hepper, Joseph Bateson, Enoch Blackburne, and Henry Oxley.

*Extraordinary Elections* :—Holbeck Ward, *vice* Armstrong, deceased, [Joseph Walker.]—North Ward, *vice* Watson, struck off the burgess roll, [W. T. Bolland, C. 387,] Thomas Richardson, C. 333.—Mill-hill, *vice* Gill, made alderman in place of Goodman, resigned, [Joseph Knight, L. 313,] Edward Boud, C. 253.—West, *vice* Botterill, alderman, [Samuel Weston, L.]—Hunslet, *vice* Blackburne, alderman, [Benjamin Idle, C. 619,] William Parker, R. 442, John Scott, L. 368.

1856.—Nov.

Nov. Leopold Redpeth, of London, registrar of shares of the Great Northern Railway Company, committed frauds on the company to the amount of nearly £200,000. He was subsequently transported for life.——14th. Colonel C. A. Cobbe, was elected chief constable for the West-Riding, at a salary of £500, in addition to the travelling and other expenses——17th. A very influential meeting was held at the Philosophical-hall, Leeds, convened by invitation from Edward Akroyd, Esq., of Halifax, for the purpose of establishing a Provident Society, and Penny Savings' Bank for the West-Riding. Resolutions were adopted in favour of the scheme.——20th. The foundation stone of St. John's church, Barnsley, was laid this day by Edward Newman, Esq.——20th. Dr. Sandwith, one of the heroes of Kars, read a paper on the siege, at the Music-hall, before the members of the Leeds Philosophical Society, and the Leeds Library.

Dec. 4th. A shocking double murder was committed at the village of Bolton-upon-Dearne, near Rotherham, the victims being Luke White, chemist, aged 62, and his wife Elizabeth, aged 56. Wilful murder against some person or persons unknown, was returned by the coroners' jury.

The Rev. William Sinclair, incumbent of St. George's, church, Leeds, was presented by Colonel Wyndham to the rectory of Pulborough, in Essex. The value of the living is £1,376.——19th. Five minutes before eight o'clock on Saturday morning, the 19th of December, an explosion took place at the Monk Bridge Iron Works, Whitehall-road, Leeds, supposed to have been caused by the water in a feed pipe finding its way amongst the molten metal in the iron refinery. The brick chimney, the burning cinders, and boiling metal were carried into the air to a great height. Edward Dickinson, of Hunslet, was thrown some distance, by a quantity of molten metal striking him upon the face and breast, and received such injuries as to cause his death. Robert Barlow, another workman was burnt, but not seriously.——In the latter part of Autumn of this year, a deplorable conflict took place between the forces of England and of China. Twelve sailors on the 8th of Oct., were taken by the Chinese authorities from a vessel under the British flag. Their restoration was demanded by the British Consul and Admiral. The demand was disregarded, and in consequence, Canton was bombarded, its forts taken, and its ships of war sunk. The hostilities were continued in the following year.

1857.—JAN.

1857. Jan. 1st. The Leeds town council resolved by twenty four against twenty three, to increase the accommodation of the borough gaol, by the erection of thirty additional cells, at an expense not exceeding £1,500. At the same meeting £3,200 was granted to complete the purchase of Woodhouse moor. The moor was purchased for £3,000.

5th. The works at the Leeds Town-hall were suspended, owing to a dispute between the council and Mr. Attack the contractor. The council subsequently took the works into their own hands. Mr. Attack became bankrupt, and a claim was made by the assignees against the council for £20,000, in respect of which a bill was filed in Chancery. The affair was recently compromised by a payment of £3,000.

19th. The opening soiree of the East Ward Mechanics' Institute, Mill-street, Leeds, took place.

The Rev. G. B. De Renzi resigned the chaplaincy of the Leeds borough gaol, on being appointed to that at Millbank, London. The borough magistrates subsequently elected as his successor, the Rev. Henry Tuckwell, curate of St. Mark's, Woodhouse.

20th. William Osburn, Esq., read a very interesting paper at the Leeds Philosophical and Literary Society, "On the Epigrams and Epigramatic writings of the beginning of the eighteenth century," and concluded with one of a local character, written on the fly leaf of an old book, as follows :—

"The *Aire* below is doubly dyed and damned ;  
The *air* above, with lurid smoke is crammed ;  
The *one* flows steaming foul as Charon's Styx,  
Its poisonous vapours in the other mix.  
These sable twins the murky town invest,—  
By them the skin's begrimed, the lungs oppressed.  
How dear the penalty thus paid for wealth ;  
Obtained through wasted life and broken health :  
The joyful Sabbath comes ! that blessed day,  
When all seem happy, and when all seem gay !  
Then toil has ceased, and then both rich and poor,  
Fly off to Harrogate, or Woodhouse moor.  
The one his villa and a carriage keeps ;  
His squalid brother in a garret sleeps,  
*High* flaunting forest trees, *low* crouching weeds,  
Can this be Manchester ? or is it Leeds."

21st. A meeting of the leading members of the Church of England, within the diocese of Ripon, was held at the Music-hall, Leeds, the Earl of Harewood in the chair, when

1857.—JAN.

it was resolved to raise a fund to be called the "Bishop Longley's Endowment Fund," as a permanent testimonial of the high sense in which the character, labours, and worth of Bishop Longley were held by churchmen throughout the diocese of Ripon. The fund had reached £5,000 up to October 1859, and was then increased by a legacy of £500, from the late Henry Hall, Esq., of Leeds. The income is used for the purpose of increasing the incomes, and doing good to the poorer incumbents of the diocese.——The Church Institute, Bond-street, Leeds, was established. It has an excellent library of more than 1,500 vols, besides a well supplied reading-room, and occasional fortnightly lectures, which are chiefly by the clergy of the town and neighbourhood; also classes for instruction in useful knowledge. The Rev. James Atlay, D.D., is president.

On Saturday morning, the 24th of Jan., a serious accident befel the Earl of Harewood, while hunting. The 'meet' took place at Stockeld Park, near Spofforth, the seat of J. B. Faviell, Esq., and in the course of the run the noble Earl took an ordinary fence, but discovered when too late, that there was a sheep net on the opposite side, in the meshes of which the hind feet of his hunter got entangled. The horse, a fine spirited animal plunged violently, and in the struggle fell, rolling over his lordship, and inflicting besides a compound fracture of the skull, severe internal injuries of the chest. Mr. T. P. Teale, of Leeds, Mr. G. Smith, the family surgeon, and Mr. C. Hawkins, the eminent metropolitan surgeon, were called in, and every measure was adopted that surgical skill could devise, and the most judicious care could do, but on Thursday, Feb. 19th, he had a sudden return of erysipelas, with increased violence; the membranes of the brain were necessarily affected: convulsions followed, and the noble earl expired at three o'clock on Sunday morning, the 22nd of February. Henry Lascelles, third Earl of Harewood, was of an ancient Yorkshire family, distinguished since the reign of Edward I., when Roger de Lascelles was summoned to parliament as Baron, (A.D. 1295.) The grandfather of the deceased Earl was created Baron Harewood of Harewood, in 1796, and raised to the rank of Earl in 1812. The late Earl was the second son of Henry the second Earl, who formerly represented the county of York. His elder brother Edward having died in 1839, he became earl on the death of his father, which took place suddenly on the 24th of November, 1841, in returning from the chase, (see

1857.—JAN.

'Annals,' page 479.) The deceased earl was born on the 11th of June, 1797, and he was consequently in his sixtieth year. He was Lord-lieutenant of the West-Riding, having been appointed to that office in 1846, on the death of Lord Wharnccliffe. He married on the 5th of July, 1823, Lady Louisa Thynne, second daughter of the Marquis of Bath, who survived him, and by whom he had a numerous family, eleven of whom, five sons and six daughters were living at the time of his death. He was educated at Christ church, Oxford; and entered the army before he was eighteen years of age; having obtained an Ensigncy in the 1st Foot Guards in April 1814. He was in the battle of Waterloo, where he was slightly wounded. He retired on half pay in 1820, and wholly quitted the army in 1831. He was appointed Lieutenant of the Yorkshire Hussar Yeomanry in 1820, Captain in 1823, Major in 1839, and he resigned in 1843. He was a Conservative, though for some years he had scarcely taken any part in politics, but confined himself to his duties as Lord-lieutenant, to the promotion of various public objects, benevolent and religious, and to the interests of his family and tenantry. He was an amiable man, of cheerful disposition and obliging manners, unostentatious, and living quietly in the style that became his rank and fortune. He was highly respected by his neighbours and tenants, as well as by the magistrates and gentry of the West-Riding. The noble earl was succeeded in his title and estates by his eldest son, Henry Thynne, Viscount Lascelles, who was born on the 18th of June, 1824, and married in 1845, Lady Elizabeth Joanna De Burgh, eldest daughter of the Marquis of Clanricarde.

Feb. 3rd. The sixth soiree of the Early Closing Association of Bradford, was held in St. George's Hall, the anniversary of Bishop Blaize day, and the conductors of the entertainment availed themselves of the opportunity of commemorating the local festival. The last observance of the festival was in 1825. This celebration equalled in splendour and gorgeousness any of its predecessors. The King was an old man named William Clough, of Darlington, and it was the fifth time of his filling that honourable office. Jason, was one John Smith, and the Bishop, another John Smith, whose Chaplain was James Beetham. Richard Fawcett, Esq., who was on horseback at the head of the spinners, pronounced uncovered the following speech, which it was customary to repeat at the festival:—

1857.—FEB.

"Hail to the day, whose kind auspicious rays  
 Deign'd first to smile on famous Bishop Blaize !  
 To the great author of our combing trade  
 This day's devoted, and due honours paid  
 To him whose fame thro' Britain's isle resounds,—  
 To him whose goodnes to the poor abounds.  
 Long shall his name in British annals shine,  
 And grateful ages offer at his shrine !  
 By this, our trade, are thousands daily fed ;  
 By it supplied with means to earn their bread.  
 In various forms our trade its works imparts ;  
 In different methods and by different arts  
 Preserves from starving, indigents distress'd ;  
 As combers, spinners, weavers, and the rest.  
 We boast no gems, nor costly garments vain,  
 Borrowed from India or the coast of Spain ;  
 Our native soil with wool our trade supplies,  
 While foreign countries envy us the prize.  
 No foreign broil our common good annoys,  
 Our country's product all our art employs ;  
 Our fleecy flocks abound in every vale,  
 Our bleating lambs proclaim the joyful tale.  
 So let not Spain with us attempt to vie,  
 Nor India's wealth pretend to soar so high ;  
 Nor Jason pride him in his Colchian spoil,  
 By hardship gain'd and enterprising toil ;  
 Since Britons all with ease attain the prize,  
 And every hill resounds with golden cries.  
 To celebrate our founder's great renown  
 Our shepherd and our sheperdess we crown ;  
 For England's commerce, and for George's sway,  
 Each loyal subject give a loud Huzza ! Huzza !"

16th. The trustees and congregation of St. George's church, Leeds, entertained the Rev. Wm. Sinclair, M.A., at breakfast, at Fleischman's Hotel, for the purpose of bidding him a final farewell, on leaving Leeds, after nineteen years' assiduous and single-minded labours as incumbent of St. George's, and presenting him with a very handsome and substantial testimonial of their high estimation of his zeal, his exertions, and his worth. The testimonial consisted of a chaste silver tea and coffee service, and a purse of five hundred guineas. One of the pieces of the service bore the following inscription :—

"Presented along with a silver tea service, and 500 guineas, to the

1857.—F&B

Rev. William Sinclair, M.A., by the trustees and congregation of St. George's church, on his removal from Leeds, in testimony of their high estimation of the services he has rendered to his district, and the town in general, whilst incumbent of that church, during a period of nineteen years. Feb., 1857."

17th. Mr. Thackray, the celebrated novelist, delivered a lecture at the Leeds Music-hall, before the members of the Leeds Mechanics' Institute, "On the Four George's, and the court and town manners during their reigns."

LUNDHILL COLLIERY EXPLOSION.—On Thursday the 19th of February, about noon, a fearful explosion occurred at the Lundhill Colliery, near Barnsley, the property of Messrs. Taylor, and Co. The number of persons in the pit at the time of the accident was 214, of whom 25 only were got out alive, thus 189 unhappy mortals were hurried into eternity without a moments warning. The pit was 660 feet deep, and had only been in operation two years. The explosion set the coal on fire, and by evening the flames had reached a fearful height, the cupola appearing one mass of flame of great brilliancy, illuminating the country for miles. The only way of stopping the fire was to completely close the pit. On this being done, the lamentations of the persons around, most of whom had lost relatives, was painful and distressing beyond description. There was scarcely a working man's house in the village but what suffered bereavment. In some instances the entire male portion of families was swept away,—one family of the name of Kellet had to deplore the loss of seven of their sons. In many instances two, three, and four brothers, and fathers, and one, two, and three sons shared the same fate. The explosion left 90 widows, and 220 orphans, destitute. In order to subdue the flames, it was found necessary to pump water into the pit, so that several months elapsed before the bodies could be recovered. 185 corpses were recovered, but of the remaining four no trace has been seen. A subscription amounting to £8,000 was raised for the benefit of the widows and orphans. The proprietors of the mine sustained a pecuniary loss of £20,000.

March 21st. Died, aged 68, the Rev. Dr. Scoresby, late vicar of Bradford, at his residence, Torquay. This veteran of Arctic enterprise combined scientific eminence with high moral worth, unaffected piety, and active benevolence. He was trained for naval adventure in a good school. His father was one of the most daring and successful seamen in the Northern Whale Fishery, when that service was draining the chief sources of the commercial wealth of the nation, and



1857.—MARCH.

was one of the best nurseries for the British navy, and the deceased from his youth was inured to the hardships and perils of the Arctic seas. After his retirement from active service at sea, he entered the church, where he had full scope for his benevolence. He still continued his scientific career. His reports to the British Association, and his numerous observations on the influence of the iron of vessels on the compass, were connected with inquiries of the utmost practical importance to navigation. It was in prosecuting these researches, and with a view to determine various questions of magnetic science, that Dr. Scoresby undertook a voyage to Australia (in the ill-fated "Royal Charter," ) from which he returned in 1856, with his constitution much enfeebled from the arduous labours to which he had subjected himself. He died in the following year.——21st. Parliament was dissolved in consequence of the defeat of the Palmerston ministry, on the 3rd of March, by 263 against 247, on the motion of Mr. Cobden, condemning the war with China. A general election ensued.

LEEDS ELECTION.—At a meeting of the liberal electors on the 13th of March, the Right Hon. M. T. Baines, W. E. Forster, Esq., and Francis Carbutt, Esq., were each proposed as fit to represent the borough. The two former received the largest show of hands ; notwithstanding which, the party was divided on the education question. In order to secure unanimity amongst the liberals both Mr. Carbutt and Mr. Forster subsequently withdrew. The conservatives brought out Robert Hall, Esq., and the liberals Mr. Baines, and John Remington Mills, Esq., of London. The nomination took place on Woodhouse moor, on Friday the 27th of March. Peter Fairbairn, Esq. proposed, and John Wilson, Esq. seconded Mr. Baines. George Skirrow Beecroft, Esq. proposed, and J. R. W. Atkinson, Esq., seconded Mr. Hall. George Hyde, Esq. proposed, and Darnton Lupton, Esq. seconded Mr. Mills. The show of hands was in favour of Mr. Baines, and Mr. Hall. A poll was demanded on behalf of Mr. Mills, which took place on the following day, and issued after a severe and close contest in the return of Mr. Baines, and Mr. Hall. Mr. Botterill, the mayor, declared the result of the poll the same evening, as follows :—

<i>The Rt. Hon. M. T. Baines, ...</i>	... .. (L)	2,329.
<i>Robert Hall, Esq., ...</i>	... .. (C)	2,237.
<i>John Remington Mills, Esq., ...</i>	... .. (L)	2,143.

Plumpers, Baines 59, Hall 1,843, Mills 151. Split votes,

1857.—MARCH.

Baines and Hall 336, Hall and Mills 58, Baines and Mills 1,934. Total polled 4,381.

At the nomination, a part of the hustings on the liberal side broke down, and seriously injured several persons, amongst whom may be mentioned Frederick Hobson, Hamilton Richardson, John Wade, Charles George, G. Laverack, Benjamin Whalley, Mr. Dodgson, Robert Green, Thomas Button, &c. The town council censured Mr. Filliter, the borough surveyor, for having certified as to the safety of the hustings, without making a proper examination.

28th. The Right Hon. Sir Charles Wood, and Frank Crossley, Esq., were returned for Halifax, the state of the poll at the close was :—Crossley, (L) 830, Wood, (L) 714, Major Edwards, (C) 651.—At Huddersfield, Edward Akroyd, Esq. was returned, his opponent being Richard Cobden, Esq. The votes were Akroyd 823, Cobden 590.

At Bradford, Mr. Wickham and General Thompson were returned.—At Wakefield, Mr. Charlesworth.

30th. Viscount Goderich, (L) and Edmund Denison, Esq. (C) were elected for the West-Riding of Yorkshire without opposition.

Guardians of the Poor of the township of Leeds, elected April 5th, 1857 :—

Those in brackets were elected.

EAST, [William Brown, 244, William Wray, 204,] Robert Gar-side, 101.—KIRKGATE, [Richard Stead, Charles Crabtree,] —MILL-HILL, [Henry Dufton, 509, William Clark, C, 453, Leonard Hicks, 368,] John Smith, 209, Charles Pegler, 171.—NORTH, [Nathaniel Sharpe, 207, Samuel Myers, 201,] Robert Meek Carter, 131, John Kaye, 118, Dennis Lee, 26.—NORTH-EAST, [Samuel Lawson, William Middleton,]—NORTH-WEST, [David Newton, 259, Henry Bailey Legg, 257,] Daniel Atkinson, 185, Richard Myers, 182. — SOUTH, [William Kirk, 121, Hargreaves Hudson, 117,] Jarvis Horsfield, 89, George Lumb, 85.—WEST, [George Tatham, 637, George Brook, 621, William Holroyd, 529,] John Woodhead, 504, William Longley, 486, Richard William Moore, 466, Thomas Bruce Cornock, 311. Richard Stead was elected chairman.

On Thursday afternoon the 9th of April, the new covered market, situated in Vicar's croft, Kirkgate, Leeds, was formally opened by the mayor and corporation. In the evening the market was thrown open to the public who visited it in thousands, the scene being enlivened by Milburn's band. The market was opened to the public on the 1st of May.

13th. The foundation stone of the Methodist new con-

1857 — MAY.

nexon chapel in Woodhouse-lane, Leeds, was laid by Joseph Love, Esq., of Willington-hall, Durham.

May. The greatest military mutiny on record broke out in Bengal, in the East Indies. The heroism with which mere handfuls of Englishmen resisted the relentless savages, and the sufferings and bravery of our countrymen at Lucknow, Cawnpore, &c., is beyond anything ever recorded in history. In the suppression of the mutiny, history will not narrate more brilliant exploits than what were performed by Havelock, Neill, Wilson, Nicholson, Outram, and Campbell, and the men who fought with them.——5th. The Great Art Treasures' Exhibition at Manchester was opened by Prince Albert.——8th. The Hon. Neale Dow, of Portland Maine, United States, author of the Maine Liquor Law, delivered an address on the total suppression of the liquor traffic, at the Leeds Stock Exchange.——12th. A person named Samuel Charlton, of Lidget-green, Bradford, barbarously murdered a widow named Hannah Holroyd, of the same place, by cutting her throat, and then committed suicide by drowning himself. The coroners' jury returned a verdict of *felo de se*. The inquest did not terminate until half past five o'clock in the evening, and as the act provides that in case of *felo de se*, the body must be interred within twenty four hours, and between the hours of nine and twelve o'clock at night, it became necessary to have a grave prepared at once. Thousands of people in the neighbourhood assembled to witness the unusual spectacle.——14th. At a meeting of the Leeds town council, a letter was read from Sir George Goodman, in which he generously presented to the mayor for the time being, and his successors, the gold chain worn by him in private parties, during his mayoralty in 1836. This chain is a fac-simile upon a reduced scale, of the official chain (described at page 438 of the 'Annals,') worn by the mayors of Leeds. At the same meeting a letter was read from the war office, that the Government had pleasure in presenting to the corporation, and inhabitants of Leeds, two Russian guns, and two carriages, as trophies from Sebastopol, which were (on the 28th of September,) placed on the banks of the reservoir at Woodhouse moor.——22nd. The Princess Royal being about to be married to Prince Frederick of Prussia, the House of Commons voted her an annuity of £8,000 a year, and a marriage portion of £40,000.

Died at Folkstone, on the 26th of May, after a short illness, Robert Hall, Esq., member of Parliament for the borough of Leeds. At the general election of the preceding

1857.—MAY.

March he was returned after a close and severe contest, the labour and excitement of which had occasioned such debility to his system, that he died after a few days illness of influenza. Mr. Hall was born in Kirkgate, Leeds, on the 15th of November, 1801, and was the only child of the late venerable Henry Hall, Esq., of Bank Lodge. He was educated at the Grammar School, Heath, near Halifax, and at the Grammar School of Leeds, during the mastership of the Rev. George Page Richards. After a most successful school career, he entered as a Commoner at Christ church, Oxford. He took the degree of B.A., in 1823, being placed in the first class in classics, and in the second class in mathematics, and of M.A. in 1826. In 1828 he was called to the bar, at Lincoln Inn. On the 8th of September, 1829, he married Maria Clay Tennant, second daughter of Thomas Tennant, Esq., of Leeds, and remained in Leeds until 1835, when he removed to Dean's-yard, Westminster, occupying chambers in the Middle Temple, and enjoying an extensive and increasing practice to the day of his death. He was a distinguished member of the Northern Circuit, and being deeply read in law, and possessing a sound and cautious judgment which seldom led him astray in giving his opinion on the questions submitted to him, he acquired extensive practice, with the general esteem and respect of his brethren at the bar, and the profession. In 1842 he was appointed Deputy-Recorder, or assistant at the sessions of Leeds, and in 1845 Recorder of Doncaster, the duties of which he exercised until his death—with the exception of an interval in 1855, in consequence of a serious railway accident, by which both his arms, and both his legs were fractured, and other severe injuries, for which, after a trial at the assizes at York, he obtained £4,500 from the Great Northern Railway Company. In 1848 he was appointed lecturer on Common Law at the Inner Temple, and held the appointment until 1852. His energies and talents were not exclusively devoted to his professional duties; the important social and political questions of the day largely engaged his attention. During his residence at Leeds he was a member of the committee of Pious Uses, a patron of the Vicarage, and took an active interest in the prosperity of the Leeds Philosophical and Literary Society, before the members of which he read many valuable papers, and was a supporter of the numerous charitable and social institutions of the town. The promotion of education, and the social condition of the lower classes were his special objects

1857.—MAY.

of interest. He originated and personally superintended a Sunday School at Richmond-road, Bank, and on his removal to Westminster, became a teacher of the first class in the Sunday Schools of St. John's, in the church of which parish an appropriate and elegant tablet has been erected to his memory by his fellow teachers and pupils. Of later years his studies had been directed more especially to the important question of the treatment of juvenile criminals. During the long vacations, he usually visited the Continent, and inspected the principal reformatories in France, Belgium, and Germany, and during these tours secured the friendship of M. de Metz, one of the founders of Mettray, and other eminent philanthropists. Subsequently he published two lectures—one on Mettray, and the other 'Visits to Continental Reformatories,' in which he gave expression to his own views on this great social problem. Amongst the minor studies to which he devoted a portion of his attention, was that of natural history, and more especially the department of Geology, of which his knowledge was very extensive. He was also a collector of coins, and well versed in Numismatics. Mr. Hall inherited the political sentiments of his father, and was a consistent conservative. He took an active part in political questions, and was one of the most energetic supporters of Mr. Michael Thomas Sadler, at the general election in 1832, and rendered great assistance to that gentleman and Mr. Oastler, in their effective exertions for the reduction of the hours' of labour in factories for children. The death of one endowed with more than ordinary talents, sound judgment, matured principles, and possessing the respect and esteem of all parties, was an event that not only deprived his fellow townsmen of a representative well qualified to support their interests, but occasioned the loss of a legislator, who was prepared and able to discuss and take an active part in the settlement of the important social and political questions of these eventful times. Robert Hall was the descendant of an old family, the owners of Stumpelow Hall, in the parish of Sheffield, and Lords of the manor of Midhope. Henry Hall, born at Stumpelow in 1682, removed to Leeds in 1716, and served the office of mayor of that borough in 1752. Henry Hall, grandfather of Robert, was mayor in 1793, whose son Henry was born in 1773, after twice serving the office of mayor in 1812, and 1825; he died at Bank Lodge, October, 1859, respected for his long and valuable services to the borough of Leeds.

June 2nd. Died, at the advanced age of ninety years,

1857.—JUNE.

John Haley, Esq., of Waterloo House, Bramley. The deceased rose from a comparatively humble position to one of wealth, and was well known as a distinguished cloth manufacturer.

4th. Leeds Election *vice* Mr. Hall deceased.—The nomination of a candidate to supply the vacancy in the representation of Leeds, caused by the melancholy death of Robert Hall, Esq., took place on Woodhouse moor, at eleven o'clock this day. Mr. Ald. Fairbairn proposed, and T. W. George, Esq. seconded, John Remington Mills, Esq. J. R. W. Atkinson, Esq. proposed, and C. Bousfield, Esq. seconded the nomination of George Skirrow Beecroft, Esq. After the candidates had addressed the meeting, a show of hands was taken, which the mayor declared to be in favour of Mr. Beecroft; a poll was demanded on behalf of Mr. Mills, which took place on the following day, the 5th. The poll commenced in good earnest, and the energies of the two parties never flagged for an instant during the whole day. At the close each party claimed the victory—Mills' committee claimed a majority of nine, and Beecroft's a majority of five. The poll books of the several deputy returning officers, as handed to the mayor on the moor, showed a majority of five for Mr. Beecroft. The mayor (J. Botterill, Esq.) with so small a majority determined to open and examine the poll books himself. This was a work of time. At length he declared Mr. Beecroft to be duly elected. The numbers being :—

<i>George Skirrow Beecroft, Esq.</i> ...	...	...	(C) 2,070.
John Remington Mills, Esq.	...	...	(L) 2,064.

6,204 registered, voted, 4,134.

25th. The Queen by letters patent conferred upon Prince Albert the title of "Prince Consort," during their joint lives.

29th. A public dinner was given to W. E. Forster, Esq., by his political friends, at the White Horse Hotel, Leeds. John Hope Shaw, Esq. presided.

July 1st. The Holbeck Municipal Cemetery, situate on Beeston Hill, a well chosen and elevated situation comprising nine acres was opened. The ceremony of laying the foundation stone of the chapels took place on the 28th of August, 1856. The total cost of the cemetery, including the two chapels was about £7,000, raised by rates levied on the inhabitants of Holbeck. One half is consecrated for the use of the established church. The Rev. Edward Wilson, B.A., is chaplain of the consecrated portion, and the Rev. A.

1857.—JULY.

Pickles of the unconsecrated portion. The town council had to pay compensation to several owners of property in the vicinity of the cemetery, for having commenced the work without their sanction. The principal item was £1,000 paid to Mr. Pawson.

3rd. A temporary bridge erected for a musical and floral fete, at the Island of Poplars, near Shrewsbury, broke down and precipitated about two hundred persons into the river, ten of whom were drowned.

7th. William Blanshard, Esq., of Leeds, having been appointed Recorder of Doncaster in the place of Mr. Hall deceased, the mayor and corporation of that town officially received the new recorder by giving a *dejeuner a la fourchette* in his honour.——13th. The Leeds Town-hall committee awarded a prize of £150 to Messrs. Smart and Spark, for plans for the Town-hall organ. On the 17th of August, Messrs. Gray and Davidson were appointed to build the organ from the designs, at a cost not exceeding £4,000.

15th. Died, aged 64, Mr. Richard Stead, malster, Leeds. At the time of his death he was chairman of the Leeds Board of Guardians, and a member of the Town Council, in which he had for a many years represented Kirkgate ward in the conservative interest. He had been a member of the board of guardians for nearly ten years, and had held the important office of chairman of the board for three years. His conduct in both offices was marked by straightforwardness, great ability, and zeal. As a guardian, he was most assiduous in discharging the duties of his office, and on all occasions manifested a warm sympathy for the poor. He was interred at the Burmantofts cemetery, in the presence of between three and four hundred people of all political shades of opinion. At the cemetery an imposing scene was presented by the formation of a large circle around the grave, by the children of the Industrial Schools. To show the respect in which he was held in the ward that he represented in the town council, most of the shops in Kirkgate were closed on the day of the funeral.——17th. The foundation stone of a new congregational chapel was laid at Cleckheaton, by Frank Crossley, Esq. M.P.

22nd. Frank Crossley, Esq., gave to the corporation of Halifax the freehold land situated within the borough of Halifax, bounded on the west by the property of Mr. Emmet, on the north by Hepwood-lane, on the east by Park-road, and on the south by King-Cross-street, and enclosed by palisades and a high boundary wall, and containing 12a.



1857.—JULY

1r. 8p. 23yds., or thereabouts, and known by the name of "The People's Park," to be used as a park for ever under the following conditions :—

1. "That the park be open to the public during the whole year Sundays included, from morning until evening.—2. That the hours of opening and closing vary with the season, but that it never be opened for the public before six o'clock in the morning, nor be kept open after dusk in the evening, but that it be opened as soon after six o'clock in the morning as the sun rises.—3. That it be used only as a promenade.—4. That no games such as cricket, bowls, or hockey, &c. be allowed, nor bathing [this condition afterwards altered to give the corporation power to erect baths.]—5. That bands of music be allowed except on Sundays [under certain regulations] but not dancing.—6. That refreshments be not sold within the park.—7. That the corporation spend annually not less than £315 in maintaining the buildings, bridges, statues, trees, shrubs, walks, seats, and in providing an adequate staff of gardeners and keepers.—8. If the corporation fail to maintain the park, as specified in rule seven, it shall revert to Frank Crossley, or to his heirs.—9 No buildings shall be erected except such summer houses, lodges, and like structures, as may from time to time be found necessary.—10. The park shall not be used for any political or other meeting, nor yet for the celebration of the anniversaries of clubs or other societies.—11. No charge shall ever be made for admission to the park, nor any use made of it for private or municipal pecuniary advantage.—12. That the corporation make and enforce such regulations as shall protect the trees, walks, &c. from injury.

Before the presentation Mr. Crossley had the park beautifully laid out from designs by Sir Joseph Paxton, at a cost of £30,000. The conveyance and formal opening took place on Friday the 14th of August following.

Aug. 14th. The very heavy rain about the middle of this month caused high floods in various parts of the country. Immense damage was done to crops in the neighbourhood of Selby. The loss of property by the flood at Ripponden near Halifax was estimated at not less than £10,000. The damage done to property at Huddersfield and the neighbourhood was very considerable. The fall of rain at Scarbro' on the 6th was so sudden and immense, that the drains were insufficient to carry away the water, and in consequence, considerable damage was done to property.

Sept. 10th, 11th, and 12th. A cricket match was played at Leeds between eleven of All England, and twenty two of Leeds district. The Leeds men were winners in one innings with thirteen runs to spare. The score being All England, first innings 29, second innings 49, total 78. Leeds, first innings 91, second innings 108, total 199.

1857.—SEPT.

14th. During the Holbeck races an intoxicated labourer named Thomas Harrison, of Beeston, persisted in spite of the efforts of the police and bystanders to cross the course with his horse and cart near the workhouse. The consequence was that one of the horses ridden by the owner, Mr. Naylor, of Holbeck, dashed into the cart, the shaft of which pierced the animal through the breast, and it immediately fell dead. The rider was thrown a long distance, but escaped without much injury. Another horse ran into the cart and had its leg broken. The rider was thrown several yards, and received severe contusions.——25th. Mr. W. Manwaring, poor law inspector, commenced at the Court-house Leeds, an official inquiry into the frauds and forgeries of proxy voting papers, at the recent election of guardians of the poor for the township of Leeds. The inquiry was followed by the trial of three persons at the assizes at York, on the 17th and 18th of March, 1858, viz., George Beckwith, John O'Rourke, and George Cromack. The jury found them guilty of conspiring together to utter the forged documents, but recommended them to mercy. The two former were sentenced to one month's imprisonment, and the latter to fourteen days, such imprisonment dating from the beginning of the assizes.——26th. At a public meeting at the Leeds Court-house, presided over by the mayor, a committee was appointed and steps taken to raise by subscription a fund for the relief of the sufferers by the Indian war.

28th. The two Russian guns from the fort of Sebastopol, presented to the Leeds corporation, were publicly placed on Woodhouse moor by the mayor, John Botterill, Esq., in the presence of not less than 50,000 persons. The guns, which are ships guns, and mounted on ships carriages, were actually used in the fort of Sebastopol. They are long 36 pounders, and each weigh 56 cwt. On either side of the carriage a plate is fixed, with the inscription "captured at Sevastopol, 1855." After the ceremony the officers of the Guards and Artillery in Leeds, the magistrates and corporation partook of luncheon at the Music-hall, on the invitation of the mayor.

30th. At a special meeting of the Leeds town council it was resolved to cause the placing of stalls, benches, goods, wares, or merchandise, in Briggate, on the usual market days and fairs to be discontinued after the 30th of November, 1857.——A serious monetary panic took place in the United States of America, which so affected money matters in England, that the Bank of England raised its rate of discount to 10 per cent, a rate higher by 2 per cent than was

1857.—SEPT.

ever known before. On the 12th of November the run upon the Bank of England so reduced the bullion, that a dreadful panic was inevitable, which was only averted by the issue of a government letter, authorising the bank to make issues beyond the limits prescribed by the act of 1844. In December the mercantile pressure fell upon Bradford with great severity.——30th. The new Town-hall at Sowerby bridge near Halifax, was formally opened by musical performances.

Oct. 3rd. The Bradford, Wakefield, and Leeds Railway was opened.

4th. Earl Fitzwilliam died, aged 71, at his seat, Wentworth Woodhouse, Yorkshire. The deceased earl was a man of chivalrous honour, the highest moral courage, perfect independence, and disinterestedness. He was the fifth of his race who had held the title of Earl Fitzwilliam, and was born on the 4th of May, 1786. In the elections of 1807, 1812, 1818, 1820, and 1826, he was returned as one of the members for the county of York. The family of Fitzwilliam is of high antiquity, being descended from Sir William Fitz Godric, cousin to King Edward the Confessor, whose son and heir, Sir William Fitzwilliam was marshal of the army of William the Conqueror, in his victorious expedition against England. The next historical Fitzwilliam was Sir William Fitzwilliam, sheriff of the city of London, alderman of Bread-street ward, and a follower of Cardinal Wolsey, whom he received into his house in the hour of his disgrace. His descendant of the same name, and still a simple knight, was five times lord deputy, and lord justice of Ireland, under Queen Elizabeth, from 1560 to 1594. The Fitzwilliam's were first elevated to the Irish Peerage in 1620, having up to that time being merely esquires and knights. The title was Lord Fitzwilliam of Lifford, in the county of Donegal, and, in 1716, they received the Irish earldom of Fitzwilliam. Honours came thickly upon this noble family, and in 1746 Earl William was elevated to the dignity of an English earl, he being the first of his race who had held an English Peerage. This peer was the grandfather of the late, and the great grandfather of the present earl.

9th. The Rev. Dr. Livingstone, the celebrated African traveller delivered an address in East-parade chapel, Leeds, to a crowded and respectable audience, on his discoveries in central South Africa, and their bearing upon the cause of Christian missions. Edward Baines, Esq. presided. On the invitation of the Leeds Chamber of Commerce, the Rev. gentleman delivered an address on the following day at the

1857.—Oct.

Stock Exchange, "On the commercial resources of central Africa." The mayor presided. ——— 11th. Mr. William James, superintendent of the Leeds police force, and chief of the corporation fire brigade, died of apoplexy. He fell whilst rendering assistance at a fire at the Felt Mills, Camp-road.

14th. A provincial Grand Lodge of the Freemason's of West Yorkshire was held at the Wellington-hall, Flieschman's Hotel, Leeds, and at the close of the business, the brethren proceeded to Trinity church, Boar-lane, to inaugurate the memorial window erected in that edifice to the late Mr. Charles Lee, drysalter, Leeds.

The window measures nine feet six inches in length, by four feet eight inches in width, and the head is semicircular. In the centre is a figure of Sanctus Johannes, the patron saint of the order, who holds the bible in his right hand, and the square in his left. He is entering the porchway of the temple, on each side of which are two pillars supporting the royal arch, with the monogram J. H. S. forming the keystone. Above the figure is a circular compartment with the "All Seeing Eye," the holy bible opened at 2 Chronicles, and the square and compasses laid thereon. Below the figures are three medallions; the centre one contains the initials of the deceased C. L.; the other two are the jewels of the offices he held, viz.:—Provincial superintendent of R. A. Masons, and Deputy Provincial Grand Master of West Yorkshire. The floor of the porch is laid with mosaic pavement, and the working tools are grouped thereon. The window is surrounded by a border composed of an endless chain, and radiating ribbon of blue and red, and encircling the border are the words "Let there be light, and there was light;" also "Brotherly love, relief, and truth." In the bottom of the window there is a handsome slab of black marble, on which is engraved in gold letters the following inscription:—

"In affectionate and grateful remembrance of personal worth and Masonic services, the brethren of the province of West Yorkshire have erected this memorial to their valued and lamented brother, Charles Lee, who for twenty years filled the high office of deputy provincial grand master of West Yorkshire. He departed this life on the sixth of November, 1856, in the 62nd year of his age. His remains are interred in the family vault in Adel church yard."

The window was executed by Mr. Francis Barnett, of Leith, from a design by Mr. William Perkin, of Leeds, P.P.G.R., and P.M. of Lodge 382.

19th. The Leeds board of guardians resolved to erect a new workhouse on a site adjoining the Industrial Schools, Burmantofts, and consisting altogether of  $21\frac{1}{2}$  acres. On the 18th of November a maximum sum of £20,000 was granted towards the erection. The ceremony of laying the foundation stones of the workhouse and chapel, took place on the

1857.—OCT.

5th of April, 1858. The former was laid by Wm. Middleton, Esq., chairman, and the latter by Dr. Hook, vicar. The new building approaches near completion (1860.) It is designed to harmonize with the Industrial school, in the Elizabethan style of architecture, ranges in a line with that edifice, and produces an architectural facade of great extent and beauty. A CHAPEL of cruciform design, in the Byzantine style, surmounted by a tower on the south side, in which a clock is to be placed, having quarter bells, is being erected between the Industrial school and Workhouse. It will be fitted up with open pews, and in the transept two galleries erected to accommodate 200 children. In the rear of the chapel and of the principal building at the south west, will be the Infirmary. Contiguous to it but totally separate and distinct, will be the idiotic and fever ward. The workhouse itself will accommodate 810 paupers, 360 males, and 450 females. Messrs. Perkin and Backhouse are the architects.

31st. Mr. Joseph Haworth, general secretary to the ancient order of Romans, was presented by the members with a splendid portrait of himself, at the house of Mr. Tidswell, Dragon Hotel, George's-street, Leeds.

## LEEDS MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS, NOVEMBER 2ND, 1857.

Those in brackets were elected.

MILL-HILL, [Joseph Walker, L, and Henry Dixon, L.]—WEST, [Charles George, L, 715, George Wright, L, 475,] John Harding, L, 404.—NORTH-WEST, [James Kitson, L.]—NORTH, [Thomas Richardson, L, 384,] William Wray, C, 344.—[NORTH-EAST, [William Middleton, C, 496,] Thomas Cornock, L, 478.—EAST [Robert Garside, L, 268,] John Prince, C, 50.—KIRKGATE, [Joseph Watson, L, 229,] Joseph Johnson, C, 197.—SOUTH, [Charles Carr, L, 174,] H. Hudson, L, 3, James Smith, L, 1, John Kirk, L, 1, Richard Gardner, L, 1.—HUNSLET, [Benjamin Mellor, L.]—HOLBECK, one additional candidate, *vice* Walker deceased, [Joseph Shackleton, L, 739, Joshua Calvert, R, 672, William Naylor, L, 631,] John Holmes, L, 599.—BRAMLEY, [David Yewdall, L, 774, William Billington, L, 746,] Abraham Farrar, C, 316.—HEADINGLEY, [Robert Dewsbury, C, 4,] William Pullan, C, 2.

Nov. 6th, *vice* White left the town, [Ben Cariss, C, was elected.]

Nov. 9th Peter Fairbairn, Esq., elected mayor.

July 27th. Kirkgate Ward, *vice* Richard Stead, deceased, [Edmund Stead, L, 188,] Samuel Myers, C, 164.

Nov. 3rd. The annual soiree of the Leeds Mechanics' Institution and Literary Society took place in the Music-hall, under the presidency of Lord Brougham, then in his 80th year, who delivered a most eloquent speech of an hours

1857—Nov.

length without the slightest symptoms of fatigue. R. M. Milnes, Esq., M.P., the Rev. Dr. Hook, the Dean of Ripon, the Rev. Dr. Booth, and other friends of education took part in the proceedings.——7th. A testimonial consisting of an elegant silver tankard, and a purse of £50 was presented to Mr. James Wardle, deputy town clerk of Leeds, by members of the Leeds corporation. The tankard had on it the following inscription :—

“Presented to Mr. James Wardle, deputy town clerk, by members of all parties of the Leeds reformed corporation, with a purse of fifty sovereigns, as a small acknowledgement of his attention and courtesy during a period of twenty one years. 1857.”

23rd. A terrific boiler explosion occurred on the premises of Mr. Charles Kaye, cotton warp manufacturer, at Upper Aspley, near Huddersfield, by which nine persons, (five of whom were females) were killed, and several others seriously wounded. The explosion resulted from the screwing down of a stop valve, placed in the top of the boiler, which when closed, completely cut off all connection with the safety valve.——25th. The gallant General Havelock, the deliverer of Lucknow, died from dysentery, brought on by exposure and anxiety.

Dec. 5th. The Leeds Reformatory School at Adel near Leeds, built at a cost of £1,200, was certified by the Secretary of State as fit to be a reformatory school, under the provisions of the statute 17th and 18th Victoria, cap. 86.

10th. Mr. Frederick Thompson, corn miller, Wakefield, had his pocket book stolen, containing £3,160, whilst attending the Corn Exchange, Manchester. The thief, Charles Browness was cleverly captured in a first class railway carriage, proceeding from Manchester to Liverpool, and was subsequently imprisoned and kept to hard labour for one year.——About half-past seven o'clock on Saturday evening the 12th of December, a terrible accident took place at the Ouse chemical works, belonging to Mr. Anderson, Howden-dyke, near Howden. The large chimney 120 feet high, came down with a tremendous crash, falling upon the vitriol chamber, in which a dozen men were working at the time, seven of whom were killed, namely William Butterworth, George Coultard, John Taylor, Joseph Pearson, James Broadbent, Joseph Barker, James Ward.

15th. At the York assizes, Mr. Henry Smith Bright, who for a many years had held a high position as a corn merchant at Hull, was sentenced to ten years penal servitude



1857.—DEC.

for having forged the signature of Robert John Taylor, on the 4th of July, 1853, to a tender of York, Newcastle, and Berwick extension shares.

17th. A fearful earthquake ravaged a portion of the kingdom of Naples, principally the cities of Salerno, Potenza, and Nola. Entire villages were destroyed, and several thousand persons were killed.—25th. Died, aged 60, Mr. Thomas Plint, of Springfield-place, Leeds. He was distinguished by great ability as a statist and political economist; was a zealous supporter of the principles of free trade. He had for some years been the registration agent for the liberal party for Leeds and the West-Riding. The early part of his life was spent in business as a cloth merchant, but during a depression of trade he was unsuccessful. He followed in the latter part of his life the business of an accountant. In politics he was a liberal, and was often a speaker at political gatherings of the liberal party. During the corn law agitation he rendered signal service to the cause of the repeal. For several years he was secretary to the Yorkshire Union of Mechanics' Institutes. In 1851 he published a work entitled "Crime in England, its relation, character, and extent, as developed from 1801 to 1848.

26th. A weekly newspaper called "The Leeds Express and West-Riding Advertizer" was commenced this day. It was published every Saturday morning, price 3d.; was afterwards reduced to 2d., and then another paper was issued from the same office called "The West Riding Penny Post." These papers were subsequently merged into the present "Leeds and West-Riding Express," published every Saturday at the price of one penny. Although the paper has recently changed hands, it still advocates advanced liberal principles. Without being opposed to any well conducted efforts for the promotion of education, it advocates a national unsectarian, in preference to a voluntary system. The present proprietors are Messrs. R. M. Carter, and Frederick Jackson. The editors are Mr. Lloyd Jones and Mr. Frederick Spark.—29th. The boiler connected with the Harehills-lane colliery, York-road, Leeds, the property of Messrs. Garside, exploded, and resulted in the immediate death of Mr. Joseph Garside, aged 30, one of the firm, the serious injury of George Haigh, the engineman, and the subsequent death of a boy named Charles Crann.

1858. Jan. 5th. Died, very suddenly, in his 52nd year, Mr. William Whitehead, the Leeds borough treasurer. In the year 1840 he was elected a member of the town council for



1838 — JAN.

the north west ward, was unseated on a point of law, and re-elected for the same ward in 1841. In 1842 he resigned his seat in the council and was elected chief clerk of the board of works. In the year 1855 he was appointed to the office of borough treasurer. Mr. Whitehead was a clear headed man, indefatigable in industry, and courteous in manners. He was esteemed as a valuable public officer, and much respected in private life for his upright character and good sense.

13th. Mr. Bethel Parkinson, farmer, Raggles Inn, Northowram, near Halifax, was found murdered in a field at Wadsworth. He had been stabbed repeatedly with a large carving knife. The whole of the left side of his body was hacked in the most horrible manner. Not content with this, the murderer took from an adjoining wall a stone weighing 20lbs, and as his victim lay extended, face downwards upon the earth, dashed it upon the back of his head completely smashing part of the skull, and driving the face into the earth with such force, that when the body was removed the earth bore the impress of the features. On the 15th and 16th of March at the Yorkshire spring assizes, Joseph Shepherd was charged with having committed the murder—found guilty and sentenced to death. He was executed on the 3rd of April, in the presence of more than 10,000 people, having made no confession of his guilt beyond the statement that he knew who had committed the murder. Shepherd's conduct from the time the awful sentence of death was pronounced upon him, to the time he was ushered into eternity was of the most hardened and impenitent character. He was throughout lost to all sense of religion, and thoughts of eternity.——14th. An attempt was made to assassinate the Emperor and Emperess of the French, as they were proceeding to the opera at Paris. Several shells filled with fulminating powder were thrown at the carriage in which were seated the Emperor and Emperess—they escaped, but six persons were killed and 123 wounded. The assassins were Italians, and members of a secret society. Two of them Orsini and Perri were executed on the 13th of March following.——25th. The Princess Royal of England was married to Prince Frederick William of Prussia, in the chapel royal St. James' palace. Demonstrations of loyalty took place throughout the country in honour of the event. In Leeds the day was mostly observed as a holiday. The town council voted a congratulatory address to her majesty and the prince consort, which was followed by a procession partly military,

1858.—JAN.

and partly civil, to Woodhouse moor, where a *feu de joie* was fired : next came a banquet at the Wellington-hall, presided over by the mayor, and finally there was a concert at the Music-hall, followed by a ball at the Assembly Rooms.

25th. The Leeds town council appointed Mr. W. E. Hepper borough treasurer at a salary of £300, *vice* Mr. Whitehead deceased. The votes were Mr. Hepper 28, Mr. Edward Heaton 17, Mr. Allison 12. 2nd vote, Mr. Hepper, 34, Mr. Heaton, 19.

Feb. 1st. A public meeting was held at the Music-hall, Leeds, over which the mayor Peter Fairbairn, Esq., presided, for the purpose of memorializing the government to carry out strict impartiality and justice in India, with regard to religion.——1st. Died, aged 65, at Shadwell Grange, near Leeds, David Cooper, Esq., a deputy lieutenant for the West-Riding of Yorkshire, and a gentleman whose sterling worth, unassuming manners, and quiet deportment, led him to be universally respected. As a merchant he held a first position in the town.——3rd. The Leeds town council elected Mr. James Kitson, alderman, in the place of Mr. Hepper resigned.——5th. About twelve o'clock this day a most awful explosion took place at Mr. Bywater's fire-work manufactory, at the Queen's public-house, Scotland-street, Sheffield, by which three persons—Mr. Bywater, Ann Corbridge, and Harriet Walker unfortunately lost their lives——19th. The ministry of Lord Palmerston was defeated on the conspiracy bill by 234 against 215, and resigned in consequence. Lord Derby formed a ministry.

27th. Two beautiful pieces of plate were presented to Francis Carbutt, Esq., of Leeds, by the members of the West-Riding Reform Registration Association, on his retirement from the chairmanship of that body, as a testimonial of their appreciation of his services, and their high estimation of his character. The testimonial comprises a silver centre-piece and inkstand, the design of the former being of the most chaste and elegant character. It consists of a palmyra tree three feet high, with peculiarly light and graceful foliage—the trunk being in bright silver, and the foliage in frosted silver ; and at the foot two female figures, representing the daughter of Pharaoh and her attendant discovering the infant Moses among the bulrushes. The princess is descending a flight of steps from a palace garden to the river Nile ; and her countenance and attitude, as well as those of her attendant, are beautifully expressive of wonder and compassion at the discovery of the little foundling.

1858.—FEB.

The water is represented in bright silver, and the ark and the bulrushes, as well as the figures, are in frosted silver. The whole rests on a richly ornamented plynth, supported by three sphinxes of great beauty. The inkstand is of the altar and sarcophagus pattern, with a Roman lamp on the top; it is extremely chaste and beautiful. Each piece bears the following inscription :—

“Presented to Francis Carbutt. Esq., by the committee and members of the West-Riding Reform Registration Association, in grateful acknowledgement of his long and valuable services as their chairman. February, 1858 ”

March 12th. At the Yorkshire spring assizes Mr. John Moore, of Pudsey, near Leeds, was charged with having forged a receipt for money, with intent to defraud John Ripley, cloth finisher, Leeds. He was found guilty but recommended to mercy, and was sentenced to penal servitude for a period of three years.——13th. At the York assizes John Hainsworth, and Josiah Williamson were charged with having on the night of the 13th of February, burglariously entered the house of the Rev. A. G. Kinsman, of Gildersome, and stolen therefrom £30. The prisoners with three other fellows entered the house of the prosecutor, masked, and armed with pistols. They forced him to retire to bed, and then compelled him to tell where his money was, on pain of having his brains blown out. The two prisoners were found guilty, and sentenced to penal servitude for the term of their natural lives.——15th. An annular eclipse of the sun took place this day. The event was looked forward to by millions of the inhabitants of this country with an unusual degree of interest and excitement. The exact time at which the eclipse began at Leeds was 11h. 36m. 1s. ; the period of greatest obscuration was at 1 p.m. ; the period at which the eclipse terminated was 2h. 10m. 1s., and reckoning the sun's diameter as 1,000, the extent of his disc eclipsed as seen at Leeds was 963. At the commencement of the eclipse at Leeds, and for three hours before the heavens were so clouded that the sun could not be seen, and continued so up to one o'clock. At this time a sudden opening in the clouds revealed half a ring of light, as thin as the thinnest crescent of the new moon, but of a much whiter and stronger light. The figure of the sun bore a resemblance to the form of a half circle. For about thirty five minutes the sun was almost constantly visible, and every minute made the crescent broader, and brought back his radiance. Very few of the anticipated effects were realized. The physical aspect of

1858.—MARCH.

nature underwent no observable changes not common to days of ordinary cloudiness, and birds and animals did not betray any of the unusual symptoms predicted by Mr. Hind and others.——On the 19th of March the whole of Lucknow was in the possession of the British forces, about 2,000 of the enemy were killed during the siege.——20th. The extensive warehouse and store rooms attached to the manufacturing premises of Mr. William Anderton, spinner and manufacturer, Bingley, were destroyed by fire. The value of the property destroyed was at least £15,000. George Anderson, aged 47, who was engaged in saving the property was burnt to death.——24th. The foundation stone of the Holbeck Mechanics' Institute, situate in Sweet-street, west, was laid by James Garth Marshall, Esq. The site of the building was liberally presented by Messrs. Marshall, and the cost of erection was raised by voluntary subscriptions amounting to about £1,800. It is a neat and commodious structure in the Italian style of architecture, faced with brick and stone dressings, and having an open porch over the entrance. It is from designs by Mr. E. Milnes of Bradford, and consists of three floors—the basement floor being appropriated to the resident's offices, warming apparatus, &c., the ground floor, a reading room, library, committee room, and class rooms; and the third floor as a lecture-hall. There are five commodious class rooms, and the reading room and library is 34 feet 6 inches by 24 feet 6 inches, and 14 feet high. The lecture hall is 69 feet 3 inches by 34 feet 6 inches, the height being 21 feet. It will hold about 600 persons. The inauguration of the new institute took place on the 27th of December following, when the Earl of Carlisle, the Dean of Ripon, and others took part in the proceedings.

Guardians of the Poor of the township of Leeds, elected April 5th, 1858 :—

Those in brackets were elected.

EAST, [Joseph Lobley, 179, John Thompson, 166,] William Brown, 150, William Wray, 141.—KIRKGATE, [Dennis Topham Moss, 127, Henry Barker, 122,] Charles Crabtree, 115, Henry Stead, 104, William Reid, 28.—MILL-HILL, [Henry Dufton, 274, William Clarke, 250, Charles Pegler, 246,] John Iredale, 228, Richard Bissington, 227, Thomas Galloway, 219, Joseph Smith, 22.—NORTH, [Samuel Myers, 180, Nathaniel Sharpe, 179,] John Kaye, 115, Thomas Coggett, 65.—NORTH-EAST, [Samuel Lawson, 218, William Middleton, 209,] Thomas Brumfit, 85, Joseph Gilpin, 83.—NORTH-WEST, [David Newton, 255, Henry Bailey Legg, 255,] John Daniel, 137, Thomas Royston, 133.—SOUTH, [Hargreaves Hudson, 88,

1858.—APRIL.

William Kirk, 80,] John Kirk, 33, Thomas Wright, 28.—W<sup>EST</sup>, [John Woodhead, 342, Richard William Moore, 328, David Lindsay, 318,] Thomas Heaps, 313, Thomas Tilney, 305, James Watson, 294. William Middleton was elected chairman.

April 5th. The members of the Leeds Building and Investment Society dined together in the large room at Kelly's Great Northern Hotel, Wellington-street, to commemorate the closing of the society, and to present a token of respect to Mr. Frederick Jackson, the acting trustee. The testimonial consisted of a beautiful centre-piece for dessert, and two flower vases to match, in richly frosted silver, representing rockwork, shrubs, wild flowers, and birds. The inscription on the plate was as follows :—

“Presented to Mr. F. Jackson by the members of the Leeds Building and Investment Society, as a token of their respect for his long continued faithful and gratuitous services as acting trustee.”

The society was founded on the 6th of April, 1846. There had been 1,112 members, and 115 of them had borrowed money to the extent of £39,984 13s. 9d., for building their houses. The investors had withdrawn £40,495 14s. 4d. The total income of the society had been £102,847 13s. 7d.

6th. The foundation stone of the new Grammar School, St. John's-hill, Woodhouse, Leeds, was laid by the Lord Bishop of Ripon.—22nd. The court of Queen's Bench refused to grant a criminal information against Dr. F. R. Lees, of Leeds, on the application of Mr. J. B. Gough, both well known temperance lecturers, for a series of alleged libels, reflecting on the character of the latter gentleman. An action of libel followed this proceeding, which came off on the 21st of June, and terminated in a verdict by consent for the plaintiff, with five guineas damages, and a full and distinct withdrawal by Dr. Lees, of the charges which he had made against Mr. Gough.—27th. The Rev. W. P. Brook, aged 25, curate of Holy Trinity, Ely, only son of Mr. Councillor Brook, Lyddon House, Leeds, was knocked down and killed by a train, whilst walking on the Eastern Counties Railway, at Ely. He was educated at the Leeds Grammar school, and graduated at Oxford. He was a young man of earnest practical piety, and was highly esteemed by those under his care.—30th. The very Rev. Sir William Cockburn, Bart., dean of York, died at Kelston rectory, near Bristol, aged 84 years. He was a fellow of St. John's college, Cambridge, where he graduated B.A., in 1795, as twelfth wrangler, and was appointed dean of York in 1822.

1858.—MAY.

He was the ninth baronet of the name, and was succeeded by his nephew Sir A. Cockburn. He was a liberal minded man, and was very popular, especially among the middle and humbler classes of society. The deanery of York was conferred (on the 18th of May) upon the Hon. and Rev. Augustus Duncombe.

May 5th. The town of Halifax was thrown into the utmost consternation by a horrible murder, which was committed at the Guardian newspaper office of that town. It appears that the compositors at the office had but just returned from dinner; a number of them were in the first compositors room upstairs, the room next to George-street, and two others, one of them the unfortunate deceased, Mr. James Edward Jacobs, and the other his murderer, a young man about twenty years of age named William Dawson, were in a further room looking into George-street-yard. The two latter were at work, and just before the melancholy affair, Dawson had fetched from one of the other men a pinch of snuff for Jacobs. No quarrel in words was heard between the two, but it seems the murderer shut the door and fastened it, and without a moments warning commenced an attack on Jacobs with iron dumb bells. After this, and apparently becoming still more furious, he seized an iron press-stang, about two and a half yards long, and beat the deceased about the head with that. Still further, he seized a hatchet, and with it cut away at the face and head of his victim. The workmen in the adjoining room became alarmed with the noise going on, and broke open the door. The sight that presented itself was fearful. The dead body of the man who but a few moments before was vigorous with life, and all the strength of manhood, was laid on its back in the room, gashed, beaten, and bruised in a most dreadful manner, especially about the head and face. The murderer and his victim were always on the most friendly terms, and worked side by side together. Dawson was always considered a quiet inoffensive studious youth. After the murder he conducted himself like a perfectly sane man, talked sensibly, and described the murder, but a scene occurred at the inquest during the evidence of Mr. Tucker, surgeon, who was speaking to a recent interview he had with the prisoner, which left no doubt but that he was mad. The surgeon had just expressed a fear that the prisoner was imbecile in his generic organs, when he rose from his seat with the fierceness of a tiger, uttering the most hideous yells, and endeavouring to cross the table, in order to get at the witness. He had been



1858 — MAY.

seated between two policemen, but it took eight or ten men to hold him. He continued his cries, saying when the officers attempted to soothe him, "what the devil did he tell that for." So great was the violence of the prisoner that it was found necessary to take the evidence of the witness in another room. Dawson was committed to York on a charge of wilful murder. He was tried on July 14th, and the jury acquitted him on the ground of insanity; and an order was made to confine him during her majesty's pleasure.

12th. The Leeds town council granted to the town-hall committee:—For a clock and bell for the tower £800;—For laying out the exterior of the building £2,000;—For gas chandeliers and fittings for the large hall, and other parts of the building, in addition to £600 previously granted by the council, £1,650.——14th. A large warehouse, the property of Messrs. Jonas Sugden and Brothers, worsted manufacturers, situated at Vale Mill, near Keighley, was almost entirely consumed by fire, together with a very large amount of manufactured goods—property to the amount of £10,000 being destroyed.——26th. The twenty first annual meeting of the Yorkshire Union of Mechanics' Institutes was held at Selby. Lord Londesborough presided over the evening soiree. By the kindness of the noble president, the delegates and visitors were enabled on the following day to visit Grimstone Park.

31st. A testimonial consisting of a handsome clock, surmounted by a beautiful equestrian group, was presented to Mr. R. S. Burton, the organist of the Leeds parish church, by the members of his choir and orchestra. It bore the following inscription:—

"Presented to Robert Senior Burton, by the members of his choir and orchestra, in grateful acknowledgment of the zeal and ability which he has ever devoted to the cause of music. May 1858."

On Thursday afternoon the 3rd of June, a severe and protracted thunderstorm passed over Leeds and the neighbourhood. One of the pinnacles of St. John's church tower, Leeds, was struck by the lightning, as was also a house at Burley, but in neither case was the damage extensive. The Bramhope tunnel on the North Eastern line gave way at the Leeds end, and the water rushed through in a perfect torrent, and with tremendous noise. A train proceeding through the tunnel about six o'clock, was met by the current and forced to put back, this was effected very slowly, the train being in the tunnel more than an hour. On its re-arrival at the



1858.—JUNE.

north end, the accumulation of rubbish had been made so great, that the passengers had to leave the carriages and walk back to Arthington. They were subsequently sent round by York, and reached Leeds about midnight. Considerable damage was done to property at Bradford and Halifax. The streets at the former place had not been so much flooded since February 1838, when according to the "Bradford year Book" a man swam down Market-street.

15th. A thunderstorm did damage to the extent of several thousands of pounds at Chatsworth. The rain literally fell in torrents, and was succeeded by hailstones, some of which were six inches in circumference. So fearful a devastation at Chatsworth house and grounds was never known before.

16th. Died, aged 80 years, the Rev. Jabez Bunting, D.D., an eminent Wesleyan minister. — 16th. The Leeds town council voted a salary of £3,000 to the mayor, payable on his retirement from office, towards defraying the expenditure he would be put to by reason of the Queen's visit. The council also voted for paving the vestibule of the principal entrance of the Town-hall £304, for ornamenting principle entrance £490; for decorating large hall £1,500. — The tolls of the Smithfield cattle market, Leeds, having been increased by the lessees Messrs. Harrison, a large proportion of the cattle dealers removed their business to Wakefield, and thus seriously affected the interests of the borough. This dispute led to several parties being summonsed before the magistrates, for selling articles in the market and North-street during the summer fair. The town council subsequently took the markets out of the hands of the lessees.

17th. A fearful railway accident occurred at the Springwood Junction of the Lancashire and Yorkshire, and London and North Western Railways, near Huddersfield, by which three persons were killed, namely, J. C. Goodwin, of Stockton-on-Tees, Thomas Currie, of Liverpool, and Jasper Beard, of Stockport, and twelve others were seriously injured. It appears that some luggage wagons had escaped from the Honley station down a steep incline which extends from Huddersfield to Brockholes, and had arrived at the above point when a train from Huddersfield to Manchester dashed into the luggage wagons, and thus caused the accident. The coroners' jury returned a verdict against some person or persons unknown, who had not used due care in preventing the escape of the wagons.

18th. Robert Baker, Esq., of Leeds, who for twenty four years had filled the office of sub-inspector of factories for

1858.—JUNE.

this district, was appointed inspector of factories for the Midland district in the place of the late Mr. Howell.

25th. An accident of a very painful character occurred to a pic nic party from Leeds to Bolton Abbey, which resulted in the death of Mr. E. J. Green, cashier at the Mount Osborne colliery, Barnsley. It appears that as the party which consisted of about thirty ladies and gentlemen, arrived near the abbey in an omnibus, Mr. Green who had up to that time been an inside passenger, got out and mounted on the top, upon which he stood. He had not however been out more than three minutes, and whilst evidently intent on the beauties on which he was gazing, when a projecting bough struck him on the head, and knocked him off the omnibus on to the road, the back part of his head touching the ground. He was taken up insensible ; medical assistance was obtained, but he gradually sunk, and expired on the following morning from concussion of the brain. — 29th. The Bradford Festival Choral Society numbering 210, by command, sung before her Majesty and the court at Buckingham Palace.

30th. The Headingley gardens were this day closed as a place of public resort.

July 7th. The Leeds town council granted the Town-hall committee £800 for furnishing the mayors' rooms, and an additional £100 for decorating the vestibule.

About eight o'clock in the evening of July 14th, about forty or fifty men of the 18th Light Dragoons, stationed at Leeds, made a most cowardly and outrageous attack on four policemen in North-street. They afterwards proceeded through the town, assaulting every policeman they met. Police officers Heaton and Bellhouse were seriously injured. None of the soldiers were identified. — 23rd. The Leeds town council granted the parliamentary committee £200, for the purpose of carrying on the proceedings for the removal of the West-Riding Assizes from York to Leeds.

August 1st. A most barbarous and cruel murder was committed at the quiet and secluded village of Darley, near Ripley. The victim was Mary Jane Scaife, aged 22 years, daughter of Mr. Thomas Scaife, a respectable farmer residing at Darley, and her murderer James Atkinson, is the son of Mr. Thomas Atkinson, flax-spinner, of Fringall, a gentleman of some local position, and possessing considerable property. The deceased and the murderer had been companions from childhood, the affection of children extending itself to that of love as they grew to womanhood and manhood. On the Sunday evening (1st Aug.) they had at-

1858.—Aug.

tended Hartwith chapel in company, and on returning were seen about nine o'clock to go up Stump-lane, apparently on very good terms. Shortly afterwards Atkinson returned home, and went to bed. On the following morning the deceased was found laid on her back in Stump-lane, with her head nearly cut off. Atkinson was taken into custody as being the last person seen in her company. He at once confessed the murder, and went with the officer to a wall where he had placed the knife with which he had committed the dreadful deed. It was supposed that he had been incited to commit the deed from jealousy, he having seen the deceased in company with a person of the name of Gill, a few nights before the murder. The prisoner said he had murdered her because their marriage had been opposed by his father, and her mother, and because the girl had stated that she would not have him. He made an extraordinary confession giving the minutest details as to the murder, &c. He was committed to York on a charge of wilful murder, and tried on the 16th of December. The prisoner refused to plead in the usual way guilty or not guilty, feigning the greatest stupidity, asking "What d'ye mean? &c." The judge ordered a plea of *not guilty* to be recorded. The trial then commenced, and occupied three days. At its conclusion the jury were absent three hours and a half; on returning into court the foreman first gave a verdict of "guilty," upon which some of the jurors called out "not guilty," and he then corrected himself and said "we find the prisoner *not guilty* on the ground of insanity"; a verdict the propriety of which has often been questioned. He was ordered to be confined during her majesty's pleasure. In July of the following year he exhibited very violent conduct, and was removed from York Castle to St. George's Lunatic Asylum, London.

4th. The foundation stone of the New College, Rawden, Yorkshire, in connexion with the Northern Baptist Education Society, established at Horton, Bradford, in 1804, for educating young men for the ministry of the gospel, was laid by Thomas Aked, Esq., of Shipley Grange. The style adopted is the Tudor. The length of the front is 280 feet—the library, lecture rooms, class rooms, and tutor's residence, occupying the centre portion, and the students apartments extending right and left. The site contains about seven acres, and is at the top of Crag Wood. — 5th. Her Majesty and the Prince Consort visited the Emperor of the French at Cherbourg, at the opening of the Napoleon docks.

5th. The Atlantic telegraph cable, after two unsuccessful

1858.—Aug.

attempts, was laid from the coast of Ireland to that of Newfoundland, and messages were transmitted by it, but a few days after the cable broke, and the defect has not yet been repaired.—23rd. A fearful railway accident occurred on the Oxford, Worcester, and Wolverhampton Railway, between Round Oak, and Brettell-lane station, near Dudley, by which fifteen persons were killed, and a many others seriously injured. The cause of the accident was the breaking of the coupling of two of the carriages, and the consequent rush of twelve or thirteen others down a steep incline.

29th. Died, aged 82, Mr. William Hirst, cloth manufacturer, of Leeds. He was born in 1777 near Huddersfield, of parents who were so poor that they were unable to give him the most ordinary education. He came to Leeds when about eighteen years of age, and worked first as a journeyman cloth dresser. About the year 1810 he began business on his own account as a cloth dresser and manufacturer. At that time Yorkshire woollen cloths were looked upon with great disfavour, the west of England cloths bearing away the palm, both as regards quality and finish; commanding nearly double the price of the former, although made from precisely the same quality of wool. This was no doubt owing to the fact that hand labour was still employed in the north in dressing, while in the west it had given place to machinery. Mr. Hirst therefore in 1813 began to have his goods finished by machinery, and made woollen cloth of such a quality as had never before been thrown off a Yorkshire loom. He stood alone in this part of the country as a finisher by machinery, and his life in consequence was frequently threatened by the croppers, who thus saw their well-paid occupation entirely destroyed. The result of the new system enabled Mr. Hirst to realise from 20s. to 34s. per yard for Yorkshire cloths, which before had commanded prices varying from 10s. to 14s. per yard, and the demand much overtaxed his powers of supply. Almost every improvement in the Leeds cloth manufacture from 1813 to 1825, was introduced by him. He introduced spinning mules, Lewis's machine, and an important improvement upon that machine, and the first working of hydraulic presses. Mr. Hirst was always ready to show strangers and persons in the same business over his works, so that others followed in his wake, and also reaped golden harvests. He had retired from business in 1825, having amassed a splendid fortune, but the panic of that year involved the firm that succeeded him, and he also was a great sufferer by their failure. He manfully took the

1858.—Aug.

concern upon his own shoulders, and in spite of his limited capital and his bankruptcy in 1830, worked it until 1833, when his mercantile career was brought to a close. He could not recover his position, and was once more a poor man. From this time to his dying day he believed that he was the victim of fraud and conspiracy, and that he was kept down by those who were reaping fortunes from his improvements. This delusion led him frequently to abuse and misrepresent parties who were no doubt anxious to assist him. Subscriptions were from time to time raised for his benefit. Mr. Hirst has been justly styled the father of the Yorkshire woollen trade, and there is no doubt he was in his day a public benefactor, and the town and trade of Leeds especially are greatly indebted to his energy, skill, and perseverance. What a pity that the declining years of such a man should have been passed in poverty! In November following, the Earl of Derby granted £100 from her Majesty's royal bounty, on behalf of the daughter-in law, and grandson of the deceased, who had ministered to the old man's comforts in his declining years, and a subscription was also raised in their behalf.

Sept. 4th. A fearful boiler explosion took place at the mill of Mr. Samuel Almond, woollen manufacturer, Gildersome, near Leeds, which resulted in the death of John Bradley, aged 18, the fireman, George Woffington, a boy of 14 years, Samuel Halliday, aged 22, Alice Wright, aged 21, and Caroline Gregson, besides serious injury to several other persons. The explosion was caused by the carelessness of a boy in allowing the boiler to become red-hot, and then turning cold water in to cool it.——4th. The mayor of Leeds, (Peter Fairbairn, Esq.) munificently presented to the corporation a splendid and admirable statue of the Queen, by Noble the sculptor. It is erected in the vestibule of the Town-hall. The statue is colossal, being eight feet six inches high, and is made of a block of Carrara marble of the very finest quality, spotless and pure. In front of the pedestal is the simple inscription "Queen Victoria, 1858." It cost the mayor a thousand guineas.

THE QUEEN'S VISIT TO LEEDS.—Sept. 6th. and 7th. Queen Victoria's visit to Leeds for the purpose of inaugurating the Town-hall, forms one of the brightest events in our local history. No sooner was it known that her majesty would arrive in Leeds on Monday the 6th. of Sept. and open the Town-hall on the following day, than a general anxiety was manifested to give her a right loyal welcome. The inhabitants seized

1858.—SEPT.

the occasion to dress the town in the gayest costume. The preparations to receive her majesty were on a gigantic scale, and of the utmost splendour; and, notwithstanding the unfavourable state of the weather—a heavy, sleety drizzle falling in the afternoon of the 6th., accompanied by gusts of cold, raw wind—yet the streets were crowded to excess. The station was very tastefully and handsomely decorated. Sheds and rows of seats, covered with scarlet cloth, and filled with ladies and gentlemen, gave an air of animation and pleasure to the scene. That part of the platform where the Queen was to alight was draped with scarlet cloth, and here were assembled the Earl of Derby, Earl Fitzwilliam, the Earl of Hardwicke, the Mayor and Mayoress, Viscount Goderich, Sir Harry Smith, Mr. William Fairbairn, the nephew of the Mayor, Mr. Denison M. P., the chairman of the company, the High Sheriff, and the whole of the Aldermen and Town Council of the borough. A quarter past six p.m. was the time her Majesty was expected to arrive; and accordingly, at that period, almost to the very second, the train glided into the station. The guard of honour of the 22nd saluted; the artillery began its regular salvos; and amid cheers and waving of handkerchiefs, her Majesty alighted on the platform. The Earl of Derby and the Mayor were the first to welcome her to Leeds. The Mayoress gracefully bowed a profound welcome, and had the honour of presenting her Majesty with a magnificent bouquet of the most costly flowers. A few minutes were occupied in conversation, when the Queen, leaning on the arm of the Prince Consort, and followed by the Princesses Alice and Helena, passed out of the station, the Mayor going before them, the members of the corporation standing at each side and cheering. Once her Majesty's carriage was fairly seen outside the railway station, there arose such a cheer as has seldom been heard before. It was the cheer not only of the thousands to whom she was visible, but the cheers of all along the line of route: it was caught up and passed from street to street, over crowded housetops, and into places far removed from where the Queen would pass—one long sustained outburst of loyal enthusiasm. It was not alone a shout of welcome to her Majesty, but one of gratification at the knowledge that she was at last the guest of Leeds, and that for a time, if only for a few hours, the borough became the seat of empire of the greatest monarchy of the earth. Slowly from the railway the royal carriage descended into the streets—a little speck among the great mass of human beings who, shouting and cheering, pushing and throwing



1858.—SEPT.

their hats and handkerchiefs into the air, as if they were demented, thronged up the streets, half wild with exultation and delight. From the station her Majesty proceeded to Woodsley House, the seat of Mr. (now Sir Peter) Fairbairn, the Mayor of Leeds, everywhere meeting with the same ovation. The route taken was along Wellington-street, Queen-street, Park-street, Park-square, and past St. George's church, up Clarendon-road to Woodsley House. Soon after her Majesty's arrival at the house, the royal commands were laid on Mr. Fairbairn to join the dinner party that evening. The other guests were the Earl of Derby, Lady Churchill, the Hon. Miss Stopford, Sir Charles Phipps, Major-General the Hon. G. Grey, and Lieutenant-Colonel the Hon. F. Ponsonby, with Miss Hildyard.

ILLUMINATION.—From all parts of the country round the visitors had been flocking in on foot, in carts, by rail or road, or any avenue that led to Leeds. Every conveyance that could bear the strain of a beast of draught, and many that would not, and with which the experiment ought never to have been attempted, was pressed into the service. Not less than 150,000 or 200,000 people were crowded into the streets. Briggate, Boar-lane, Wellington-street, and Upperhead-row; and, in fact, all the places best illuminated, were thronged. In Briggate and Upperhead-row the effect was beautiful; for neither money nor trouble had been spared upon the adornment of these thoroughfares. The first-named street was crossed in all directions with festoons of artificial flowers, so as to form across both road and paths a perfect arcade, from the wreaths of which depended coloured lamps. The transparencies and illuminations, too, along the house-fronts were brilliant and varied, equalling those which once before were displayed in Leeds on the occasion of the fall of Sebastopol. It was past twelve o'clock before the last of the lamps went out.

Tuesday the 7th was looked forward to as the greatest day that Leeds had yet seen; but alas! the morning broke with heavy clouds, thick mist, and drizzling rain. From the earliest hours, however, thousands upon thousands came flocking into Leeds from all parts. Every street and alley of the town seemed thronged, and still thousands upon thousands kept coming in per rail from York, Bradford, Wakefield, and Pontefract, until it seemed a question whether the last comers would find room enough even to get out of the trains. The arrangements made on the line of route from



1858.—SEPT.

Woodsley House to the Town-hall were excellent. The streets were transformed for the day into a series of floral avenues, colonnades, and triumphal arches. Not only was the line throughout well kept by the constables of London and the district police, but by the friendly societies of Leeds, who were wisely pressed into the service, and lined the barriers inside along the whole route. Their members wore no insignia or badge, except a laurel leaf in the buttonhole, and white gloves, and on the royal procession passing they simply removed their hats, but took no part in the cheering. The greatest scene along the whole route of her Majesty's procession was at Woodhouse moor, where the children of the Sunday schools were mustered, to the number of more than 32,000, of almost every age and every religious denomination. On the banks of the reservoir which bounds the western extremity of the plain of Woodhouse moor were collected some 60,000 or 70,000 persons, who had made the best of the vantage-ground which was here presented. Tier above tier they rose in dense masses, and it may be questioned whether such a multitude was ever before seen packed into so small a space. In the centre of the amphitheatre formed by these living walls stood the children, in two huge divisions, amounting to (inclusive of teachers) more than 16,000 each, divided into districts, parishes, and schools, and distinguished by their orange, crimson, or blue banners. The children were disposed upon two immense platforms or galleries, between which the royal cortège passed, each being about 170 yards in length; depth 27 and 45 feet respectively. In the centre was a sort of elevated pulpit for the general director and his assistants, and above this was a tall rostrum, in which stood the musical conductor, Mr. Longbottom, the movements of whose baton were to sway and to modulate the fresh young voices of the crowd beneath him. From this centre, radiating equally on all sides, were posted signalmen, with huge boards, on which were printed in the largest of letters the various signals, as, "Prepare to cheer!" "Sing!" "Silence!" and "Dismiss!"

THE PROCESSION TO THE TOWN-HALL.—Her Majesty left Woodsley House at half-past ten, and proceeded up Clarendon-road, along St. John's hill, across Woodhouse moor, down Woodhouse-lane, Upperhead-row, Briggate, Boar-lane, Wellington-street, West-street, Park-place, East-parade, to the Town-hall. The procession was a very long one, and consisted of the Mayor, and corporation, in their robes, and in carriages, &c.; a squadron of the 18th Hussars, and a

1858.—SEPT.

squadron of the 2nd West York Light Infantry, &c. The royal procession however, consisted only of three carriages. The first contained General Grey, her Majesty's Equerry; Sir Charles Phipps, K.C.B., Privy Purse; and Colonel Ponsonby, the Prince Consort's Equerry. The second contained the Earl of Derby, Minister in attendance; Miss Hildyard, the Princesses' Governess; Lady Churchill and the Hon. Miss Stopford, Maids of Honour to the Queen. The third contained the Queen, the Prince Consort, the Princess Alice, and the Princess Helena. Sir Harry Smith, K.C.B., rode on the left of her Majesty, and Earl Fitzwilliam (Lord Lieutenant of the West-Riding) on the right. At the time her Majesty started the clouds broke up, and the sun shone fully as she came upon the moor amid the children. As the cortège came in sight of the children's platforms the signals "Prepare to cheer" rose up on every side, but they were needless; the difficulty was to keep the children quiet. 30,000 little trebles set a-going are not so easily stopped; and some time elapsed before the shouts ceased, and the thundering bass accompaniment of the populace outside went rumbling away in the distance. Then the conductor waved his hand, and slowly swelling upwards, like a vast organ of human voices, came "God save the Queen." With the first notes her Majesty held up her hand, and the carriage halted in the centre of the moor amid the children, while the great choir of singers went pealing forth their anthem with such a truth and sublimity as seemed to move even the most distant hearers. When this was over the procession continued its way, and the hymns of the children continued—the long soft notes of every psalm resounding far and near, and making themselves heard above the cheering, even when the procession was wending its way through the most crowded parts of Leeds. From this point her Majesty's reception was as grand in its enthusiasm as anything could be. For nearly four miles it was one continued ovation. At the Town-hall the crowds were so great that the barriers seemed quite inadequate, and at last bent, cracked, and splintered before the immense pressure. The admirable arrangements of the police, however, averted all mishap. The crowd was pacified, the barriers shored up and bound with iron bands, and with such aids and exhortations to quietness the affair was managed.

THE INAUGURAL CEREMONIES.—At twenty minutes to twelve o'clock the royal cortege entered the great square in which the hall is situated, when the scene quite defies all

1858.—SEPT.

attempts to pourtray it in words. The cheers literally seemed to rend the air. After acknowledging these salutes and those of the guard of honour, her Majesty and the Prince Consort gave their undivided attention to the noble building they had come to inaugurate. The Mayor and Mayoress received the royal party as they alighted, and the Mayor conducted her Majesty and the Prince up the steps of the south facade. Repeatedly her Majesty stopped to examine and admire the edifice, till she entered the vestibule, where the architect, Mr. Brodrick, was in attendance, and had the honour of being presented. Here her Majesty had an opportunity of seeing the Mayor's princely gift to the town—her statue, by Noble, the sculptor. The hall was thronged with all the rank and fashion of the county, the varied dresses of the choirs above the northern end of the hall showing out like a rich parterre, a kind of background to the magnificent dresses and uniforms that thronged it in every part. As her Majesty entered, the whole mass of visitors rose and made the hall echo and vibrate again under the great welcome given to their Queen. Yet almost as suddenly as this began it ended, as the Queen, reaching the daïs, stood with the Princess Alice on her right, the Prince Consort and Princess Helena on her left, and the Bishop of Ripon, advancing, read aloud, with much solemnity, a prayer specially composed for the occasion. The national anthem followed, Mrs. Sunderland taking the second verse in solo, and then, advancing with the Mayor to the foot of the daïs, the town clerk, Mr. Ikin, in a distinct tone of voice read the following address :—

TO THE QUEEN'S MOST EXCELLENT MAJESTY.

May it please your Majesty,

We, the Mayor, Aldermen, and burgesses of the borough of Leeds, bid your Majesty welcome to this your faithful and loving town, and thank you from our hearts for having granted our prayer that you would make this happy and memorable day doubly happy and doubly memorable by your auspicious presence. We venture to hope that so excellent a judge of art as your Majesty may find something to approve in the hall in which we are now for the first time assembled, and may be well pleased to see a stirring and thriving seat of English industry embellished by an edifice not inferior to those stately piles which still attest the ancient opulence of the great commercial cities of Italy and Flanders. For the mere purpose of municipal government a less spacious and costly building might have sufficed. But in our architectural plans we have borne in mind the probability that at no very distant time civil and criminal justice may be dispensed to an exten-

1858.—SEPT.

sive region in this town, the real capital of the West-Riding. We were also desirous to provide a place where large assemblies might meet in comfort to exercise their constitutional right of discussing public questions, to listen to instruction on literary and philosophical subjects, or to enjoy innocent amusements. Confident that nothing which concerns the happiness of your subjects, from the solemn administration of those laws which protect our lives and our property down to the harmless recreations from which a laborious population returns with new vigour to its toils, can be uninteresting to your Majesty, we were encouraged to prefer our request that the opening of our hall might be graced by your presence; and we see with pride and pleasure the fulfilment of our hopes. We pray God to bless your Majesty; we pray God to prolong your reign; and we know that, in so praying, we are praying for our own happiness and for that of all your people. May a long line of descendants be, like you, repaid for the mild and constitutional exercise of regal power by the respect and love of a free and high-spirited nation. It is probable that in the days of those descendants experimental science will have made great progress; that inventions of which we have seen the promising infancy will have been brought by successive improvements near to perfection; and that the material wealth of our island may be such as would now seem fabulous. Yet we trust that even then our hall will be seen with interest as a memorial of a time when England already enjoyed order and freedom, profound tranquility, and steadily increasing prosperity, under a Sovereign exemplary in the discharge of every political and of every domestic duty; and that those who visit this building will contemplate it with double interest when they are told that it was inaugurated by the good Queen Victoria.

As this address was presented, her Majesty sent for the Earl of Derby, who was in the hall, to stand on the dais, and, taking from his lordship her written reply, her Majesty read aloud, amid breathless silence, as follows:—

Mr. Mayor and Gentlemen,

I accept with pleasure your loyal address; and I thank you sincerely for the cordial welcome with which I have been received. It is highly gratifying to me to witness the opening of this noble hall—a work well worthy of your active industry and enterprising spirit; and, while it will reflect a lasting honour on the town of Leeds, I feel assured that it will also secure to the thriving community whom you represent the important social and municipal advantages for which it is designed.

The Mayor, the Town Clerk, with the mover and seconder of the address, Mr. Alderman Botterill, and Mr. Councillor Irwin, had then the honour of kissing hands; after which each member of the corporation was presented to her Majesty by name. The Town Clerk then read an address to the Prince Consort, which his royal highness gracefully ack-

1858 — SEPT.

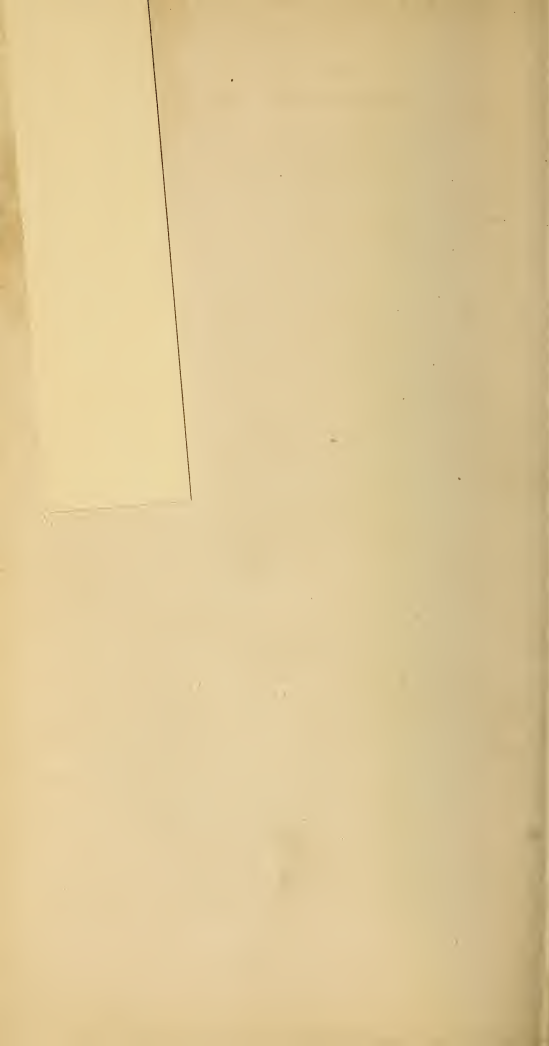
nowledged. Her Majesty then conferred for a few minutes with the Earl of Derby, and taking the sword of General Grey, signalled to the Mayor to kneel, and touching him lightly first on the right and then on the left shoulder, saying "Rise Sir Peter Fairbairn," the Mayor of Leeds rose up, amidst tremendous cheering. The Earl of Derby then came forward, and, addressing the assembly, said, "I am commanded by her Majesty to declare that this hall is now opened"—an announcement which was responded to by loud cheers from all parts of the hall. The Hallelujah chorus formed the fitting finale of the opening, which was sung by the entire choir in a very effective manner. Her Majesty, the Prince Consort, and the Royal Princesses then retired from the room amid the cordial farewell acclamations and manifestations of all assembled, and proceeded to a suite of private apartments in the building, where luncheon had been prepared for them. After the lapse of about half an hour the royal party again entered their carriages, and a few minutes after one they drove through the streets leading to the North-Eastern Station, which was gaily decorated for their reception. A few minutes later, about half-past one o'clock, amid reiterated cheers from the spectators, her Majesty, accompanied by the Prince Consort, the Princesses Alice and Helena, the members of the household before mentioned, and the Earl of Derby, was on her way to Balmoral. Her Majesty was richly but simply attired, with that discriminating taste for which she is remarkable, as well in dress as in other matters. Her dress was a rich mauve silk with brocaded flounces. Her mantle was of white lace, ornamented very elaborately, apparently with needlework. Her bonnet also was of white lace, with a few simple flowers inside, and a short white veil also of lace. Her hair was plainly parted on each side of the face in what, we believe, is the "Victoria" fashion. The dress was of sufficient amplitude, but nothing to the mountains which some ladies indulge in. The Princesses were dressed exactly alike,—green and white silk dresses, with violet coloured mantles, and light bonnets trimmed with green. The Prince Consort wore an ordinary morning dress, with his blue ribbon of the Garter. In the afternoon the Mayor, Sir Peter Fairbairn, gave a grand banquet at the Town-hall to a large number of guests in honour of her Majesty's gracious visit.

DESCRIPTION OF THE TOWN-HALL.—This magnificent building covers an area of 5,600 square yards, and is bounded on the south by Park-lane, on the north by Great George's-



PUBLISHED BY JOSEPH JOHNSON.

*U.S. Capitol*





1858.—SEPT.

street, on the west by Oxford-place, and on the east by Calverley-street. The site on which it is erected was purchased from John Blayds, Esq., for £9,000. The form of the structure is a parallelogram, being 250 feet long by 200 feet in breadth. It stands on an elevated platform, and is surrounded by Corinthian columns and pilasters, supporting an entablature and balustrade, altogether about 67 feet in height. The large hall rises out of the centre of the building, to a height of 92 feet from the ground. The south or principal facade, which is approached by a handsome flight of 19 steps, 110 feet in length, has a deeply recessed portico of 12 columns, ten of them being in front, and two recessed. In the centre of this facade, and adjoining the south end of the large hall, rises the dome, or tower, which is 225 feet in height. The two sides and north end of the building are somewhat similar to the south front, excepting that the columns and pilasters which surround them are near to the walls, and the inter-columns, or spaces between them, have two tiers of circular-headed windows. The principal entrance is under the south portico, and consists of a large archway, 32 feet high, by 21 feet wide. The lower part contains three splendid doors, composed of highly ornamented wrought and cast iron work, glazed. The tympanum of the arch has been filled in with an emblematic group of figures, and the panels have been elaborately carved, the work being executed by Mr. Thomas, of London, the celebrated sculptor of the Houses of Parliament. The group represents Leeds in its commercial and industrial character, fostering and encouraging the Arts and Sciences. The central figure, which is almost colossal, is that of a female, in free and elegant drapery, having in the outstretched right hand a wreath, and in the left the distaff. Immediately behind this figure is a judicial chair, ornamented with rays of light, and flanked by owls, emblematical of wisdom, as well as being supporters of the arms of Leeds. On the right there is a personification of Poetry and Music, with the lyre and pipe, a Faun's head, and wreath of flowers in the background; and also a figure of Industry looking with anxious care towards the principal figure, and holding in her hands samples of textile fabrics. She is represented as seated on a bale of goods, and resting her arm on an anvil, surrounded by various implements of trade. On the left there are also two figures, the one representing the Fine Arts, and the other Science. The former bears in her hands the emblems of painting, and leans upon a Corinthian capital, at the base of which is a bust of Minerva,

1858.—SEPT.

the latter is represented in an attitude of repose, looking with a calm expression upon the figure of the Fine Arts, and holding in one hand the compass, in the other a globe, marked with the rudiments of geometry, and at her feet lie various portions of machinery. The panels forming the architrave to the arch, and spanning the group, are tastefully carved with various devices, selected from the arms of the town, with scroll ornaments, &c. The centre panel contains the scales of justice, surrounded with palm branches. The large panels on each side of the entrance doorways are filled in with bold and classic scrolls and foliage, in the centre of each of which is a child bearing the fleece, having beneath the fasces and other emblems of Power and Justice, and above the caduceus of Mercury; symbolic of Order, Peace, and Prosperity. The interior of the building is characterised by almost unequalled adaptation to the various municipal and judicial purposes it is intended to subserve, besides which it is in several important portions marked by ornamentation of the highest style of excellence. The principal entrance opens into a vestibule of very elegant proportions, with a domed ceiling, supported by four arches and fluted pilasters of the composite order, the apartment being 70 feet high, and 48 feet by 45 feet wide. It is separated from the large hall by a glass screen. In the centre of the vestibule stands a colossal statue, in white marble, of Queen Victoria, by Matthew Noble, Esq., of London, which stands upon a polished granite pedestal. The figure is 8 feet 6 inches high, and was presented to the corporation by the Mayor (Peter Fairbairn, Esq.) The floor is inlaid with encaustic tiles, from the works of Messrs. Minton, Hollins, and Co., of Stoke-upon-Trent. The great hall is entered from the vestibule, and whether viewed in relation to its size, the harmony of its proportions, or the extreme beauty of its decorations, it is one of the noblest public rooms in the country. Its dimensions are 161 feet long, by 72 feet wide, and 75 feet high. With the exception of a small balcony over the entrance, at the south end, the room is without galleries, and the general effect is considerably enhanced by the uninterrupted view thus obtained of the entire hall. It is enriched with ornament in relief and in colour, in an almost lavish manner, every portion being more or less decorated. The sides of the hall are divided into five bays by composite Corinthian columns and pilasters, in imitation of Rosso Antico, with gilt bronze capitals and bases, standing upon a surbase, inlaid with precious and rare specimens of marbles, executed

1858.—SEPT.

in the most finished style of painting. The inter-columns (or wall spaces between the columns) are of a pale green colour, bordered with a fret ornamental margin. The columns and pilasters support an enriched entablature, which, like the surbase, also run entirely round the hall. From this entablature springs the fine circular ceiling, which is divided into five bays, corresponding with the columns, each bay being subdivided into five compound panels, highly ornamented with conventional foliage, in relief and coloured. The hall is lighted by ten semicircular windows immediately above the entablature, and at the springing of the ceiling. They are of very large dimensions, and are mixed with stained glass, by Messrs. Edmundson and Son, of Manchester. Above the windows are appropriate figures and ornaments in full relief, by Mr. John Thomas, of London. Projecting from the centres or key stones are ram's heads, from which are suspended ten magnificent cut glass chandeliers, made by Messrs. Osler, of Birmingham, specially for the hall. The north end of the hall is semicircular on plan, and coved at the top, the seats of the orchestra running across the front,—the organ, built by Messrs. Gray and Davidson, of London, from designs by Messrs. Smart and Spark, filling up the back. The case for this instrument, from a design by Mr. Brodrick, has been made in Leeds, by Messrs. Thorp and Atkinson. The ornamental portions are entirely of wood, and have been carved by Messrs. Matthews and Robinson, of Leeds. The pipes are burnished and diapered in gold, the woodwork being either gilded or of polished wainscot. On the top are four figures and the Leeds arms, standing in bold relief against the deep azure back ground of the cove, powdered with stars. The outward appearance of the organ is in strict "keeping" with the hall. Appropriate mottoes are inscribed in different parts of the hall. On the semicircular frieze at the north end are the words, "Except the Lord build the house, they labour in vain that build it," and on the corresponding frieze at the opposite end, the text, "Except the Lord keep the city, the watchman waketh but in vain." The other mottoes are placed on a level with the capitals of the columns, and run entirely round the hall:—"Honesty the best policy."—"Labor Omnia Vincit."—"Weave Truth with Trust."—"Magna Charta."—"Forward."—"Deo, Regi, Patriæ."—"Trial by Jury."—"Auspicious Melioris Ævi."—"Good will towards men."—"Virtue the only Nobility."—"In Union is Strength."—"Glory to God in the highest." In the second recess of the

1858.—SEPT.

large hall on the right, on entering, is the statue of the late Edward Baines, Esq. The whole of the coloured decorations in the large hall and vestibule were executed by John Crace, of London, at a cost of £1,600. At each side of the large hall there are refreshment rooms, dressing rooms, retiring rooms, &c. The kitchen establishment connected with this portion of the building, is on the basement floor. There are also on the ground floor three Law Courts, and a Council Room, for the meetings of the corporation. The two Law Courts at the north end of the building, are each 55 feet long by 47 feet wide, and 45 feet in height. The Borough Court and Council Room are at the south end; the former being 55 feet long by 40 feet wide, and 40 feet high. These four apartments, situated at the four corners of the building, are of considerable architectural beauty, and are worthy neighbours to the grand hall. The rest of the ground floor is devoted to the town clerk's offices, borough surveyor's offices, rate office, judges', barristers', magistrates', jury, and waiting rooms; the whole being connected by a corridor, 10 feet in width, which runs entirely round the large hall, connecting the different entrances and vestibules together. The first or chamber floor is approached by four stone staircases, and contains the West-Riding magistrates' court, the mayor's reception rooms, and borough treasurer's offices. There is a large space all round the building, and the front, or south side, forms a good-sized square, in the centre of which stands a bronze statue, on a polished granite pedestal, of the Duke of Wellington, by the Baron Marochetti. Equi-distant from the statue are placed two handsome lamps, enclosed within a circle. The total cost of the building, including the interior fittings and decorations, and the organ, with the land, has been more than £100,000, raised by rates levied upon the inhabitants.

Sept. 8th to 13th. Besides the visit of her Majesty to Leeds, and in addition to the Royal Inauguration of the Town-hall, our good old town was the scene of one of the most delightful musical festivals of this musical age. The principal vocalists and performers were:—

Madame Clara Novello, Mrs. Sunderland, Madame Weiss, Miss Helena Walker, and Mademoiselle Piccolomini—*Sopranos*. Miss Dolby, Miss Palmer, Miss Crossland, Miss Freeman, and Madame Alboni—*Contraltos*. Mr. Sims Reeves, Mr. Wilbye Cooper, Mr. Inkersall, and Signor Giuglini—*Tenors*. Mr. Weiss, Mr. Santley, Mr. Winn, Mr. Hinchliffe, Signor Rossi, and Signor Vialetti—*Bassos*.

Instrumental Solo Performers—Miss Arabella Goddard, Mons.

1858.—SKPT.

Sainton, Mr. H. Blagrove, Mr. Webb, Mr. C. Harper, Mr. T. Harper, Mr. Williams, Mr. Waetzig, Mr. Lucas, and Mr. Howell. Organists—Mr. Henry Smart, and Mr. William Spark. Choral Master—Mr. R. S. Burton. Conductor—Professor W. Sterndale Bennett, Mus. Doc., Canterbury.

Orchestra—The band comprised the most celebrated performers of the metropolis, with whom were associated a few local artists, who have gained repute in the West-Riding. Chorus—The chorus was formed by carefully selecting the best voices from Leeds, Bradford, Halifax, Huddersfield, Sheffield, Keighley, Dewsbury, Barnsley, Mirfield, and other towns. The performances commenced on Wednesday morning, Sept. 8th, with Mendelssohn's grand Oratoria of Elijah. The first of the miscellaneous concerts took place in the evening, and opened with Mozart's symphony in C major. The great novelty of the evening was Professor Bennett's Pastoral (M.S.) "The May Queen," composed expressly for the festival, and the first time of its performance. On Thursday morning, Sept. 9th, the performance comprised Rossini's "Stabat Mater"; selections from Bach's "Grosse Passions—Musik"; and Beethoven's Sacred Cantata "The Mount of Olives." The evening's concert was a miscellaneous one, and was the only performance of the festival in which both Alboni and Piccolomini, and both Villetti and Rossi were to be heard. The Friday morning's performance (the 10th) commenced with the first two parts of Haydn's Oratorio "The Seasons" and concluded with Handel's sacred Oratorio "Israel in Egypt." The evening's performance was miscellaneous, and commenced with Beethoven's grand symphony in C minor. The Messiah was performed on Saturday morning, the 11th, and concluded the festival proper. On the Saturday evening a cheap concert was given, which passed off with great *eclat*. The number of persons present at this last concert was about 4,000. On Monday night, Sept. 13th, the festivities were brought to a close by a grand ball in the Town-hall. The band in attendance was that of Mr. Laurent, of London. The total receipts of the festival and ball was about £8,000; the disbursements £6,000; the surplus £2,000 was given in aid of the funds of the Leeds General Infirmary.

13th. Died, in his 80th year, the Rev. Walter Scott, the late principal of Airedale college, who almost entirely by self culture, attained great theological reputation.

13th. A dreadful panic seized the audience at the Surry Music-hall, Sheffield, during the singing of Madame Marietta, supposed to have been caused by some one in the gallery

1858.—SEPT.

firing a pistol. In the attempt to escape from the building five persons were crushed or trampled to death, and a many others seriously injured.——22nd. The British Association for the advancement of science, commenced its twenty-eighth annual meeting at the Leeds Town-hall, under the presidency of Professor Owen, and concluded on the 29th.

29th. A soiree of the Leeds Mechanics' Institute was held at the Town-hall, the chair being occupied by Lord Goderich. Addresses were delivered by the Earl of Carlisle, Sir R. L. Murchison, Professor Owen, the Rev. Dr. Booth, and others.——30th. The Leeds town council voted the sum of £20,000 for finishing and furnishing the Town-hall. This vote made the total amount expended or granted up to this time £102,089.

Oct. 7th. Sally Hare, aged 18, domestic servant to Mr. Cuthberts, of St. John's, near Rotherham, was murdered by her sweetheart, John Taylor Whitworth, who was tried at York on the 20th of December; found guilty of wilful murder, and was executed on Saturday the 8th of January, 1859.——Dr. Donatti, of Florence, discovered on the 2nd of June, a small nebulous star which he soon determined to be a comet. From about the middle of September to the 10th of October, it was a brilliant object in the North-west, and proved indeed to be the most wonderful celestial visitor of modern times. On the 10th of October it was within fifty one million miles from the earth. It was completely a new visitor to the solar system, and according to the calculations of a Prussian astronomer, will not return until the lapse of  $2,101\frac{1}{2}$  years, that is to say in the year 3,960 of our era. On the 5th of Oct. the brilliant star Arcturius shone brightly through the filmy mist of the comets' tail, and produced the appearance of a double comet.——12th. About 3,000 colliers in the neighbourhood of Leeds struck work, in consequence of a proposed reduction by the masters of 15 per cent from their wages. The strike did not terminate until December, when the men submitted to a reduction of  $7\frac{1}{2}$  per cent.

## LEEDS MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS, NOVEMBER 1ST, 1858.

Those in brackets were elected.

MILL-HILL, [Anthony Titley, L, 309, O. Nussey, L., 298.] W. St. J. Wheelhouse, C, 260, Henry Dufton, C, 237.——WEST, [G. Brook, L, James Watson, L.]——NORTH-WEST, [Joseph Morton Barret, L.]——NORTH, [Wm Thomas Bolland, C.]——NORTH-EAST, [Wm. Longley, C, 449,] Thomas Cornock, L, 432.——EAST,



1858 —Nov.

[Thomas Brumfit, L, 639,] S. Idle, C, 475. —KIRKGATE, [Wm. Wray, C, 216,] G. A. Linsley, L, 192. —SOUTH, [W. Kirk, L, 132,] R. Gardner, L, 58. —HUNSLET, [Benjamin Idle, C. —HOLBECK, [Joseph Shackleton, L, 1,439, Benjamin Woolley, L, 1,312,] Thomas Sheldon, L, 952. —BRAMLBY, [Matthew Moss, L, Samuel Musgrave, L.] —HEADINGLEY, [William Pollard, C, 143,] Ben Cariss, C, 50.

Sir Peter Fairbairn, was re-elected mayor.

Nov. 1st. The town of Bradford was this day thrown into a state of great excitement, by the discovery that several persons had died, and a great number of others were ill from the effects of eating peppermint lozenges, which had been sold in the market by a person named William Hardaker. It appeared that Hardaker had purchased the lozenges from Joseph Neal, a wholesale confectioner in Stone-street. Mr. Neal in the manufacture of lozenges was in the habit of mixing with the sugar a quantity of what is called "daft" in chemical language it would be called sulphate of lime, and is popularly known as plaster of Paris, or gypsum. Mr. Neal sent to the shop of Mr. Hodgson, druggist, of Shipley, for some "daft." Mr. Hodgson was ill, and a young man in his employ named William Goddard, not knowing where to find the article made enquiry of his master, who directed him to a cask in one corner of the cellar. The young man went into the cellar, and by mistake, instead of supplying the applicant with 12lbs of "daft," gave him 12lbs of arsenic. Unfortunately the 12lbs of arsenic was mixed with 40lbs of sugar, and 4lbs of gum into lozenges. 40lbs of the lozenges were sold to Hardaker, who sold 5lbs retail in the Bradford market the same night. Each lozenge it is supposed would contain  $9\frac{1}{2}$  grains of arsenic, and as  $4\frac{1}{2}$  grains are considered to be a poisonous dose, each lozenge was sufficient to poison two persons. As the lozenge weighed at the rate of 16 to the ounce, there was sufficient poison distributed in the shape of lozenges by Hardaker, as would kill nearly 2,000 persons, reckoning 12 ounces to the pound. The consequences therefore might have been more fearful, as it was however, the poisoning proved fatal to seventeen persons, and caused about 200 others to be ill. Hodgson, Goddard, and Neale, were taken into custody and committed on a charge of manslaughter. The prosecution was subsequently withdrawn as against Goddard and Neale, and on Hodgson being tried on the 21st of December, at York, he was acquitted.

17th. Died in his 88th year, at Newtown, Montgomery-



1858.—DEC.

shire, Mr. Robert Owen, the founder of that system of political ethics called "socialism," and which in latter years assumed the name of its originator, and was known as "Owenism."

Dec. 23rd. A public meeting took place at the Leeds Town-hall in favour of Parliamentary Reform, under the presidency of the mayor, Sir Peter Fairbairn. Mr. Edward Baines, Mr. W. Brown, Mr. Carter, and others took part in the proceedings.—During the year 1858 a formidable disease called "diphtheria," a swelling of the throat, made its appearance, and its career in many parts of the country was marked by a melancholy increase in the number of deaths.

1859. Jan. 1st. At a meeting of the Leeds town council it was resolved to grant a retiring pension of £100 per annum to Mr. Edward Reid, chief constable, length of service and increasing age having rendered him unable to discharge the duties with that efficiency which so important an office required. Previous to Mr. Read's appointment as chief constable of Leeds he was a police-officer at the Hatten Garden police-office, where his father was the chief of the force. He was elected from among a large number of competitors, on the 1st of January, 1823, and continued in office until the old corporation was superseded. On the new corporation coming into office Mr. Heywood was appointed chief constable, and for seventeen months Mr. Read did not fill the situation. On the 1st of December, 1837, however, he was re-appointed.—7th. A jury was summoned before William Gray, Esq., sitting for the High Sheriff of Yorkshire, in the Magistrates' Court, at York Castle, to hear evidence in the case of *Newton v. Terry*, an action for assault. Mr. David Newton, of Leeds, a wool merchant, and a well known liberal member of the Leeds town council was the plaintiff. Mr. Henry Terry, watchmaker, Briggate, Leeds, was the defendant. The assault took place on the evening of Thursday the 7th of Oct., at the Central Market Hotel, Duncan-street, Leeds. A writ was issued from the Court of Exchequer on the 14th of October, and the defendant allowed judgment to go by default. The jury was consequently only required to assess the damages (the assault being admitted); after hearing evidence as to the nature of the assault, and the circumstances under which it took place, the jury assessed the damages at £10.

20th. Died, aged 48, Mr. T. B. Thompson, the celebrated temperance advocate. A number of the members of the

1859.—JAN.

Leeds Temperance Society have by subscription recently erected to his memory a monument in Woodhouse cemetery. The design is of the decorative gothic style of architecture; the plan at the base is square and rises six feet, from which springs an octagonal column, with an enriched capital and a carved terminal. The total height is 16 feet. It bears the following inscription:—

“In memory of T<sup>r</sup> B. Thompson, who departed this life Jan. 20th, 1859, aged 48 years. Having been fifteen years Agent of the British Temperance League, this monument was erected by a few friends in memory of one of the most able and consistent advocates of the temperance movement.”

17th. The Leeds Rational Recreation Society was this day dissolved.——28th. Died, the Right Hon. the Earl of Ripon, at his seat at Putney Heath, Surrey. The deceased, Frederick John Robinson, was at his death in the seventy-seventh year of his age, having been born in 1782. He was educated at Harrow school, and St. John's, Cambridge, where he obtained Sir W. Browne's medal for the best Latin ode in 1801, and graduated M.A. in 1802. He was private secretary to the Lord-Lieutenant of Ireland from 1804 to 1806, and accompanied Lord Pembroke's mission to Vienna in 1807. In 1806 and 1807 he represented Carlow in Parliament, but from 1807 till 1827 he sat for Ripon. He had held the great offices in the state of President of the Board of Control, Lord Privy Seal, Secretary of State for the Colonies, President of the Board of Trade, Chancellor of the Exchequer, and First Lord of the Treasury. He was created D.C.L. at Oxford in 1839. His political principles were conservative. The deceased Earl was the second son of the second Lord Grantham, by the second daughter of the second Earl of Hardwicke, and was heir-presumptive to the Earl de Grey. He is succeeded by his son Viscount Goderich, M.P. for the West-Riding.

On Tuesday the 25th of January, the hundredth anniversary of the birth of Robert Burns, the universally known and admired Scotch poet, was celebrated in a very marked manner in most of the chief cities and towns in England and Scotland.

Feb. 3rd. G. S. Beecroft, Esq., M.P. for Leeds, had the honour of seconding the address in reply to the royal speech.

18th. Mr. Stephen English, chief constable of Norwich, was elected chief constable for the borough of Leeds, in the place of Mr. Read.——19th. The Earl of Derby conferred

1859.—FEB.

upon the Rev. Dr. Hook, vicar of Leeds, the deanery of Chichester. He was installed on the 19th of March.

21st. West-Riding Election.—The election of a member of parliament for the West-Riding, in the place of the Earl of Ripon (Lord Goderich), who had been elevated to the peerage, took place at Wakefield. Sir J. W. Ramsden, liberal, of Byram-hall, near Pontefract, and recently M.P. for Hythe, was returned without opposition.

March 9th. The Leeds town council adopted a petition to parliament against the Reform Bill, introduced by the Derby government.——18th. A public meeting was held in the Leeds Town-hall, Sir Peter Fairbairn, mayor, in the chair, when a resolution was passed against the government reform bill.

April 1st. The Derby government was defeated by 330 to 291 on the second reading of the reform bill, after a severe night's debate. In consequence of which, Lord Derby appealed to the country, and a general election ensued.

Guardians of the Poor for the township of Leeds, elected April 5th, 1859 :—

Those in brackets were elected.

EAST, [John Thompson, 285, Joseph Lobley, 283,] John Lassey, 186, Joseph Sugden, 181.—KIRKGATE, [Dennis Topham Moss, 222, James Stables, 217,] William Wray, 215, Henry Barker, 215. The election of Mr. Stables was afterwards declared to be void, in consequence of the discovery of forged voting papers, and Mr. Barker was declared elected.—MILL-HILL, [Henry Dufton, 572, Charles Peglar, 544, William Clarke, 536,] Frederick Jackson, 436, Joseph Hirst, 419, James Smith, 397.—NORTH, [Joseph Vever, 352, Nathaniel Sharpe, 339,] Mark Richardson, 323, Samuel Myers, 311.—NORTH-EAST, [Samuel Lawson, 391, John Trumble, 357,] Wm. Middleton, 346, Joseph Gilpin, 341.—NORTH-WEST, [Henry Bailey Legg, 441, Thomas Parker, 432,] John Daniel, 333, Thomas Headland, 326.—SOUTH [John Kirk, 227, Hargreaves Hudson, 204,] Richd. Bywater, 129.—WEST, [Thomas Heaps, 823, James Watson, 799, Thomas Tilney, 792,] Richard Wm. Moore, 714, John Woodhead, 713, David Lindsay, 691. Henry Bailey Legg was elected chairman.

12th. A meeting of the liberal electors of Leeds was held at the Town-hall, when it was decided to bring out Edward Baines, Esq., and W. E. Forster, Esq. The Right Hon. M. T. Baines had decided to retire from parliamentary life, on account of ill health. [The Hon. Gentleman died on Jan. 23rd in the following year, aged 60, to the great regret of all parties of his fellow-townsmen.]——18th. A meeting of the

1859.—APRIL.

conservative electors was held in the Town-hall, to hear an address from George Skirrow Beecroft, Esq., who offered himself for re-election; when a resolution was adopted pledging him support at the forthcoming election.

29th. LEEDS ELECTION.—The nomination took place on Woodhouse moor. The weather was very inclement, and the rain fell during nearly the whole of the proceedings. Mr. C. Bousfield proposed, and Mr. J. D. Holdforth, seconded the nomination of Mr. Beecroft. Mr. T. W. George proposed, and Mr. Joseph Cliff seconded Mr. E. Baines. Mr. Joseph Lupton proposed, and Mr. John Jowitt seconded Mr. Forster. Mr. W. Miller proposed, and Mr. Jas. Dawson seconded Mr. John Shaw. After the several candidates had addressed the assembly, the mayor Sir Peter Fairbairn called for a show of hands, which he declared to be in favour of Mr. Baines and Mr. Beecroft; a decision which was thought by some of the liberal party to have been given erroneously against Mr. Forster, and which in consequence subjected the mayor to some annoyance as he left the moor. A poll was demanded on behalf of Mr. Forster, which took place on the following day. At its close the mayor proceeded to Woodhouse moor, where about 20,000 persons had congregated, and his worship announced that Mr. Baines and Mr. Beecroft were elected. The result of the poll being:—

<i>Mr. Baines</i> ... ..	(L)	2,343.
<i>Mr. Beecroft</i> ... ..	(C)	2,302.
<i>Mr. Forster</i> ... ..	(L)	2,280.

Plumpers, Beecroft 1,977, Forster 108, Baines 66. Splits, Beecroft and Baines 215, Beecroft and Forster 110, Baines and Forster 2,062.

May 10th. The nomination of candidates for the West-Riding took place at Wakefield on the 7th of May. Mr. J. W. Childers proposed, and Mr. Darnton Lupton seconded Sir John Ramsden. Sir Charles Wood proposed, and Mr. T. Dunn seconded Mr. Frank Crossley. The Hon. E. Lascelles proposed, and Mr. J. Brooke seconded Mr. J. S. Wortley. The show of hands was in favour of Sir John Ramsden and Mr. Crossley. A poll was demanded on behalf of Mr. Wortley, which took place on the 10th, the result being as follows:—

<i>Ramsden</i> ... ..	(L)	15,978.
<i>Crossley</i> ... ..	(L)	15,401.
<i>Wortley</i> ... ..	(C)	13,636.

Bradford Election.—[Mr. Wickham, C, 2,076, Mr. Salt,

1859 — MAY.

L, 1727,] Mr. Harris, C, 1,229.——Huddersfield.—[Mr. Leatham, L, 779,] Mr. Akroyd, L, 760.——Wakefield.—[Mr. Leatham, L, 406,] Mr. Charlesworth, C, 403. A commission of inquiry subsequently sat with respect to this election, when a most disgraceful system of bribery was disclosed, which had been practised by both parties.

14th. Mr. Joseph Sturge, who was a candidate for the representation of Leeds, at the election in 1848, died suddenly at his residence at Edgbaston, Birmingham.

18th. Considerable excitement was caused in the village of Harewood, near Leeds, by the discovery of the dead body of a female infant in the stream flowing through the woods leading from Alwoodley-Gates to the Stank, and still further excitement was occasioned on its being known that Sarah Barrett, (daughter of Mr. Stephen Barrett, a respectable farmer at Weardley,) a young person about 25 years of age, had been apprehended on suspicion of having murdered the child, which was an illegitimate one, to which she had given birth at Leeds a few days before. She was committed to York on a charge of wilful murder, and was tried on the 19th of July, when the jury returned a verdict of *not guilty*.

25th. Thomas Smith, a pointsman at the Whitehall Junction of the Midland Railway, underwent an examination at the Leeds Town-hall, on a charge of having murdered the illegitimate infant male child (of which he was the father) of Helena Moxon, a widow, residing in Appleyard-court, School-close. Smith obtained the child from the mother under the pretence that he was going to put it out to nurse at Beeston. What he did with it still remains a mystery, as he obstinately refused to tell of its whereabouts, therefore the charge of murder could not be made out, but he was subsequently committed to prison for stealing the mother's clothes, in which he had wrapped the baby.

27th. G. S. Beecroft, Esq., M.P., was entertained at a banquet in the Victoria-hall, Town-hall, Leeds, in commemoration of his being returned a second time as one of the parliamentary representatives of the borough. The proceedings were of a most animated and enthusiastic character, and the reception given to the honourable member will long be remembered for its spontaneous cordiality and heartiness. As a demonstration of the strength of the conservative principles in Leeds, the banquet was eminently successful, being very numerous and influentially attended. Upwards of 750 gentlemen were present. Charles Bousfield, Esq., the chairman of Mr. Beecroft's election committee, presided.

28th. Mr. George Terry, of Woodhouse-lane, Leeds, the





PUBLISHED BY JOSEPH JOHNSON, LEEDS.



1859.—JUNE.

Grand Master of the Grand United Order of Oddfellows, and the treasurer of the Oddfellows Loan Society, Leeds, absconded, having previously defrauded the two societies of various sums of money, amounting altogether to about £4,000.

June 3rd. A number of gentlemen met at the Queen's Head Inn, Mill-hill, Leeds, for the purpose of presenting a testimonial to Mr. F. W. Grauhan, recently superintendent of the Leeds police force, on his retirement from that office, as an acknowledgment of their appreciation of his services to the town. The testimonial consisted of a handsome silver tea service and a purse containing fifty guineas. The teapot bore the following inscription :—

“ Presented, with a purse of fifty guineas, to F. W. Grauhan, on his retiring from the office of superintendent of the police of the borough of Leeds, by a few friends, as an acknowledgment of his efficient and courteous conduct during the nine years he held the said office. Leeds, June 3rd ”

Mr. Grauhan was subsequently elected chief constable of Bradford.——10th. The Derby government was defeated by 323 to 310, on an amendment to the address from the throne, which vote caused them to resign. Lord Palmerston formed a ministry.——13th. A meeting was held at the Town-hall, when it was determined to form a Leeds Volunteer Rifle Corps.

23rd. CRIMEAN MONUMENT.—The monument raised by public subscription as a memorial to the natives of Leeds who fell in the Crimean War from 1854 to 1856, was erected in the Leeds parish church. It is placed at the north-west entrance, in the place until recently occupied by the statue of the late M. T. Sadler, Esq., which has been removed to the opposite side.

The monument is a work of great power and beauty, consisting of a colossal group of victory crowning a dying soldier. The soldier is represented clothed in the British uniform, he is leaning on his hand in the agony of death; the countenance is finely executed, and in its softly-chiselled lines the combination of pain, fortitude, and christian resignation is well represented. The accessories scattered about the field complete the story, while the pyridical contour of the whole composition naturally carries up the eye until it rests upon the crowning figure which is winged and draped. The pedestal or base forms the memorial; it is of chased gothic design, and consists of flanking pedestals with a base moulding and upper foliated cornice, the latter in bold relief; with carved vaulting on the pedestals are palms wreathed with ribbons, inscribed with the names of the Crimean victories. The whole forms a panel enclosing a slab of pure white marble, bearing the names of the fallen heroes whose deeds the monument is erected

1859.—JUNE.

to commemorate. With the exception of the tablet the work is executed in Caen stone. The monument is of the style of the 13th century. It exhibits many pleasing and artistic adaptations of the peculiarities of that style. The whole composition is supported upon two carved brackets of elaborate design. The base consists of a moulded plinth with a quarterfoil string above. The centre consists of a trefoil arch foliated; on each side are double recessed niches with ogee canopies and foliated terminals. The canopy is gabled, the gabling being pierced and crocketed. The bases of the gables terminate in emblematic figures of pelicans, each side niche is occupied by a statue—that on the right Faith; and on the left Hope. The centre of the tablet arch is flanked on either side with slender columns of Italian marble. The capitals of these columns are of stone, carved to represent the one an open, and the other a closed fuchsia. This carving is of the most exquisite delicacy. Considering the material the under-cutting and piercing is marvellous, and this characterizes the whole of the carving throughout this beautiful native work of art. Surmounting the capitals are two angels with closed wings, in an attitude of devotion. The large sunk member of the arch is filled with carvings of poppy buds and leaves, emblematic of sleep, and disposed in a manner very similar to the well known ball ornament of this period of architecture. Above the arch rises a gable, crocketed, with a sunk panel richly damasked. Standing on the pedestal over the centre tablet arch, and occupying the gable, is the full length figure of an angel, the left hand bearing a celestial crown, and the right pointing upwards. The ball ornament also occupies the recessed portion of the moulding of the gable. The gable has a terminal of ivy leaves, which indeed are used in profusion throughout the composition, and with their tendrils are thrown into the various necessary architectural forms of crockets, running moulds, and finials. The height of the monument is fourteen feet, and it has taken about fifteen tons of material for its construction, and has been designed and executed by our townsmen, Messrs. Dennis Lee and Welsh, Woodhouse-lane. The whole composition is of the most exquisite beauty, and evinces not only high artistic taste, but also much skill of adaption in the accessories of the design. The carving is as delicate as though it had emanated from fairy fingers, exhibiting the highest excellence ever seen in this district.

About the same time was erected in the anti-chapel of the parish church, a beautiful medallion in white marble, by Spencer, of Rome, from a cast in bas-relief by August Fletcher, Esq., and bears the following inscription:—

“In memory of James Marshall, Lieutenant 68th Light Infantry, second son of Thomas Horncastle Marshall, Esq., Judge of the county courts of this district. He fell at the siege of Sevastopol on the 8th of June, 1855, in the 20th year of his age.”

The medallion is surrounded with a beautiful scroll of

1859.—JUNE.

flowers in mosaic work, in which is interwoven the words "Alma," "Inkerman," "Sevastopol," "Crimea."

27th. The Leeds new Grammar School, situate on the north east side of Woodhouse moor, was inaugurated this day. The foundation stone of the school was laid on the 6th of April, 1858, by the Lord Bishop of Ripon. The building consists of two large school rooms, with class room and library, and a residence for the head-master, with accommodation for boarders. The style of architecture employed by the architect (E. M. Barry, Esq., of Westminster) is gothic, of the decorated period, and the structure is faced throughout with stone. The windows are deeply recessed, with rich mouldings, including shafts and carved capitals; and the entrance doorway presents an elaborate appearance, being ornamented with polished red granite columns, and having carved over it, in ornamental characters, the text, "Nisi Dominus ædificaverit domum in vanum laboraverunt qui ædificant eam." All the roofs are of the steep pitch commonly seen in Gothic buildings of the best period, and at the point of intersection of the main roof with that over the library rises a lofty ventilating turret or lantern. The master's house is at the western end of the building. The building resembles in shape a Latin cross, the lower or longer arm containing the school-rooms, one over the other. These are fine lofty rooms and measure 95 feet long by 28 feet wide, and 85 feet long by 28 feet wide. At the point where the four arms of the cross meet is the staircase for the boys, which is entirely of stone, with flights five feet wide. There are no windows, and the landings are supported on iron beams. The right hand arm of the cross contains on the ground floor two cloak rooms, and over them a class room and the library, each 24 feet long by 22 feet wide. The left hand arm is occupied by the study and dormitories, each 22 feet square, for the head master's pupils. The upper arm of the cross is devoted to the head-master's residence, which contains drawing and dining rooms, with a study, and the other apartments requisite in a gentleman's house. The schools are warmed by hot water pipes, supplied from an apparatus placed in the basement. The roof of the upper school is of open timber, stained and varnished, and the whole building is most substantially constructed, the floors being supported on wrought-iron beams.

29th. BANQUET AND TESTIMONIALS TO DR. HOOK.—The elevation of the Rev. Dr. Hook to the Deanery of Chichester, and his consequent removal from Leeds, excited amongst his

1859 — JUNE.

parishioners generally a feeling of very sincere regret, at the same time that it elicited expressions of congratulation and esteem, which evinced in a high degree the pleasure of the inhabitants at the reward which had been justly bestowed upon him, after a life of earnest and devoted labour as the vicar for twenty two years, of this large and important parish. This manifestation of affectionate esteem and gratitude found expression in a variety of forms. The various bodies with which the Rev. Gentleman was associated, recorded their sense of his services in terms of the most gratifying character. In some instances the bare record of those services was deemed sufficient, but in others, and especially with regard to the general testimonial, it was felt desirable that the sense of obligation should be manifested in a more public manner, prior to Dr. Hook's removal to his new sphere of labour. In accordance with this desire Dr. Hook and Mrs. Hook were on the 29th of June, entertained at a public banquet in the Victoria-hall, and were received with great enthusiasm by not less than 400 persons, including the principal families of the neighbourhood. The entertainment (which was provided by Mr. Fleischmann, of the Scarbro' Hotel) was in every respect worthy of the occasion, and the event will long be remembered as one of the most pleasing episodes in the lives of all who had the pleasure of being present. After dinner, and the usual loyal toasts, the mayor proceeded with the presentations. A deputation from the committee appointed at the public meeting on the 20th of April, consisting of W. B. Denison, Esq., Wm. Gott, Esq., John Botterill, Esq., G. B. Nelson, Esq., A. Horsfall, Esq., E. Bond, Esq., J. M. Tennant, Esq., and S. Smith, Esq., came forward and handed to the mayor the public testimonial, which consisted of a cheque for 2,000 guineas, and an address, which were enclosed in an elegant coffer or casket, of Coromandel wood, elaborately ornamented with rich gold, engraved and foliated, cinque-cento ornaments. On the front of the casket was a view of the parish church, in gilt relief, and the lid bore the following inscription :—

“ Presented, with 2,000 guineas, to the Very Rev. Walter Farquhar Hook, D.D., Dean of Chichester, and Vicar of Leeds, St. Peter's Day, MDCCCLIX.”

The address, which had been beautifully written and illuminated by Mr. H. Salt, of the herald's office, Lincoln's Inn, and gorgeously bound in crimson velvet, with gilt rims and monogram, was read by the Rev. A. Barry. It was

1859.—JUNE.

signed by the Mayor, as chairman, for and on behalf of the meeting. A deputation from the Manchester Unity of the Independent Order of Odd-fellows, in the Leeds district, was next introduced, and Mr. William Longley, P.G., presented the testimonial subscribed for by the members of the Order in Leeds, (as well as an address,) consisting of a chaste and elegant silver centre-piece. The base, which rested on a plateau of burnished silver, with rock border, was triangular, and supported figures of Faith, Hope, and Charity, in frosted silver. The figures were grouped round an oak tree, rising from the centre, with branches, leaves, and acorns, and bearing upon the foliage a pierced silver basket, with large cut-glass dish. It was inscribed as follows :—

“Presented to the Very Rev. W. F. Hook, D.D., Dean of Chichester, by the members of the Leeds District of Independent Order of Odd-fellows, Manchester Unity, on the occasion of his leaving Leeds, as a small token of their love and esteem, for the many kind and valuable services rendered by him to the Order during his residence amongst them as the vicar of that parish.—Leeds, June 29, 1859.”

Addresses were also presented by the Leeds Sunday School Association, the Central Short Time Committee of the West-Riding, the Choristers of the Parish Church, and a testimonial subscribed for by the members of the choir, which consisted of an exquisite white marble and gilt clock, with candelabra to match, bearing the following inscription :—

“Presented to the Very Rev. Walter Farquhar Hook, D.D., Dean of Chichester and Vicar of Leeds, by the Choristers of the Leeds Parish Church. St. Peter's Day, MDCCCLIX.”

In addition to those testimonials some were privately presented to Dr. Hook. Of these, a beautiful gilt timepiece, presented by Mr. and Mrs. Walker Joy, was exhibited in the hall. A gold casket, value 50 guineas, containing £270, was presented to Mrs. Hook, as a testimonial from the ladies of Leeds. The casket was of silver gilt, conventionally called gold, and might well be pronounced an artistic gem. On the lid was an exquisitely fine specimen of figure chasing, from one of Tenier's pictures. On the front, back, and each side were chased medallions, representing respectively the Car of Phæton, the Dying Gladiator, Hector after his combat with Achilles, and one of the Muses crowned by the Graces. A malachite tablet adorned each corner, and a large turquoise the front. An elaborate border ran round the basement, broken by a bust with helmet at each corner ; the

1859—JUNE.

whole being supported on feet of elegant design and exquisite workmanship. Inside the lid was the following inscription :—

“ This Casket, containing a purse of £270, is presented to Mrs. Hook, by the ladies whose names are enclosed, as a token of their personal regard, and in affectionate acknowledgment of her inestimable services during her residence of 22 years in Leeds.—June 29th, 1859.”

Before leaving Leeds the Dean of Chichester made the following benefactions to the town :—The sum of £400 to the Grammar School, the interest of which to be expended annually in a prize; the sum of £100 to the National Schools, on condition that the debt remaining on the schools be discharged before the institution of his successor; the sum of £50 to the churchwardens of the Parish Church, to be expended on improvements; the sum of £50 to the Church Institute, to be expended on the library; the sum of £50 to the Philosophical and Literary Society, to be expended on the museum; and the sum of £50 to the Leeds Mechanics' Institute, to be distributed in five annual payments of £10 each for the best essay on some subject connected with the social advancement of the working classes, the subject to be chosen by the president, the vice-presidents, and the secretaries, and the prize to be adjudged by the Vicar of Leeds, the head master of the Grammar School, and the president for the time being of the institution; £50 to the Parish Church choir, and £20 to the Widow and Orphans' fund of the Leeds district, Manchester Unity. During the twenty-two years that Dr. Hook had been vicar of Leeds, there had been built in the parish no fewer than twenty-one out of thirty-six churches, at least thirty schools, and twenty-three out of twenty-nine parsonage houses, at a cost of at least £150,000; and a great deal of this work must be attributed to the self-denying and persevering exertions of the vicar, and the passing of the 'Leeds Vicarage Act,' which was promoted by him at a great sacrifice to himself of income, patronage, and power.

July 16th. At a meeting of the Leeds magistrates, Captain Wedderburne, of Norwood, near London, late of the 53rd regiment, was elected governor of the Leeds borough gaol, in the place of Mr. Page, resigned. The salary of the governor of the gaol is £250 per annum, with a residence at the gaol, coal and gas found.——27th. The Very Rev. Dr. Henry David Erskine, Dean of Ripon and Rector of Kirby-Underdale, in this county, died at the Deanery, Ripon, in the 73rd year of his age. The deceased,



1859.—Aug.

who was the son of the great Lord Erskine, was appointed dean of Ripon in 1847. He had won golden opinions from all sorts and conditions of men, especially by the zeal and ability with which he advocated the cause of mechanics' institutes and other kindred institutions.

About five o'clock on Saturday afternoon the 6th, of Aug. Mr. Richard Broughton, a respectable man, 67 years of age, who resided in Rose Cottage-yard, Roundhay, was barbarously murdered in the fields known as the Ox Pasture, near Harehills-lane, Roundhay. The murderer knocked Mr. Broughton down with a bludgeon, and inflicted five wounds upon his head—one of which fractured his skull. He then stole his German-silver watch, and made a precipitate retreat. The blows rendered Broughton insensible for a short time, but he sufficiently recovered to be able to walk home. On arriving at home the unfortunate sufferer relapsed into insensibility, and died at twenty minutes to two o'clock on the following day. The only connected description that the deceased had been able to give was to the effect "that he had been attacked by two men; one went up the hill slowly before him, till he got to the top. Another man then met him from another road, and one of them struck him over the head twice. They were dressed something like working men. He thought one of them had a jacket on." For some time after the murder it was thought that the perpetrator or perpetrators of the crime would escape the hands of justice. At first a reward of £50, and afterwards £150, was offered for the apprehension and conviction of the murderer. Two persons, named Appleby and Beader, were arrested on suspicion, but were subsequently set at liberty. At length some important disclosures were made which led to the apprehension of a young man, 19 years of age, named Charles Normington, on suspicion of being implicated in the crime. It appears that about eight o'clock on Saturday night, the 3rd September, a man named James Snales, a collier employed at one of the coal pits of Messrs. Briggs and Son, of Whitwood, near Wakefield, went to the shop of Mr. Barrass, pawnbroker, Dyer-street, Leeds, and presented the pawn-ticket for the watch belonging to the deceased, which was pledged there on the night of the murder. Mr. Barrass immediately communicated with the chief-constable, who instituted further inquiries. It was clearly ascertained that Normington was in possession of the pawn-ticket a day or two after the murder, and the justices determined to offer a reward of £25 for his apprehension. On the following



1859.—Aug.

Monday, Mr. English proceeded to Sheffield, attired himself in the garb of a collier, and, after exercising considerable perseverance and ingenuity, succeeded in apprehending the man he was in search of, on the road to the Wicker, Sheffield. It appeared from the evidence that Normington offered the deceased's watch in pledge at Mr. Topham's, about an hour after the murder, and about 10 o'clock the same night he offered to sell a pawn-ticket for a watch (no doubt the same) to a man named Hoyland, who however refused to purchase it. On the following Monday the prisoner went to Whitwood, and remained working at a colliery there until the Thursday afterwards, when he left his lodgings without notice. While at Whitwood he sold the pawn-ticket to Smales, to whom he stated that the watch was his own. Two or three witnesses spoke positively to seeing Normington near the place where the murder was committed on the Saturday afternoon. One witness stated that he had in his hand the hedgestake which was subsequently picked up in the Ox Pasture, and which there is no doubt had been used in the murderous attack upon poor Broughton. When apprehended Normington admitted to Mr. English that he was present when the murder was committed, but denied that he inflicted the fatal blows. On the 10th of September he was committed to York on a charge of wilful murder. He was tried on the 15th of December and found guilty, and the terrible sentence of death was passed upon the prisoner. At its close he swooned away into the arms of the under-governor. When the judge put on the black cap, and again at the conclusion of the sentence, piercing shrieks rang through the court, proceeding from the prisoner's mother, who was sitting in one of the galleries. The unhappy youthful murderer was executed at noon on the 31st of December, after having made a full confession of his guilt, stating that he gave the deceased several blows with the bludgeon and felled him to the ground, that the other man tore open the deceased's waistcoat and kicked him whilst on the ground, and that he (Normington) took his watch.

17th. The patrons of the Leeds parish church filled up the vacancy in the vicarage of Leeds, occasioned by the promotion of the Very Rev. Dr. Hook to the deanery of Chichester. There were 38 candidates, and the Rev. James Atley, B.D., senior fellow and tutor of Saint John's College, Cambridge, was elected. He was inducted on Saturday, the 10th of September, and preached his first sermon in the parish church the following day.—23rd to 26th. The third

1859.—SEPT.

triennial Bradford Musical Festival took place. A new work (a cantata), entitled "The Year," by Mr. William Jackson, the able conductor of the Bradford Choral Society, was performed with great success.

Sept. 2nd. This evening the Mayor of Leeds (Sir Peter Fairbairn) entertained the Lord-Lieutenant of the West-Riding (Earl Fitzwilliam), and a large number of the principal gentry of the riding, to a sumptuous banquet in the Victoria Hall. Amongst those who received invitations were the members for the West-Riding and the various boroughs in the riding, the mayors of the several boroughs, and the magistrates and the corporation of the borough of Leeds. The object of the gathering, as stated in the cards of invitation, was "to meet the Lord-Lieutenant of the West-Riding."——9th. A terrific explosion took place on the Great Eastern steam ship during its trial trip, by which six persons were killed, and damage done to the vessel to the extent of £5,000.——10th. The annual gathering of the Institution of Mechanical Engineers was held at Leeds.

21st. An excellent full-length portrait of Mr. W. E. Hepper, the Leeds borough treasurer, by Mr. Waller, was presented to the town hall committee by the subscribers.

28th. Mr. Joseph Redfearn, the cashier of the Leeds Banking Company, died suddenly in a railway carriage, while travelling from London to Leeds. After his death a deficiency in his accounts was discovered to the extent of £9,000.

Oct. 5th. Henry Hall, Esq., of Bank Lodge, Leeds, died on Wednesday, the 5th October, in the 87th year of his age. He was a native of Leeds, and was the representative of the oldest Leeds family still resident in the town. He was elected a member of the corporation on the 27th March, 1805, taking the rank of "Assistant," as the junior branch of the municipal body was then called. On the 8th June, 1811, he was made alderman; and in the following year he took the office of Mayor, and again for the second time in 1825. Mr. Hall was one of the aldermen in the reformed corporation, elected in December, 1835, but he only remained in that position three years. As an alderman of the old corporation he was a magistrate for the borough; but, this function being separated from aldermanic dignity by the Municipal Reform Act, in the year 1842 he was placed again on the Commission, and at the time of his death he was the oldest of our borough magistrates. He was one of the patrons of the Vicarage, and a trustee of the Grammar

1859.—Oct.

School, as well as of other public institutions. He was treasurer of the Leeds Library forty years, and of the General Infirmary thirty-eight years, both unpaid but somewhat onerous offices. The former he resigned in 1853, and the latter in 1854, on account of the increasing infirmities of age. Mr. Hall was a steady and consistent member of the Church of England. In politics his principles were strictly Conservative. He was interred in the same vault with his son, on the south-east side of Whitkirk church yard.

6th. Harewood House, near Leeds, the seat of the Right Hon. the Earl of Harewood, was the scene of very gratifying festivities, in commemoration of the marriage of the noble earl to the daughter of J. G. Smyth, Esq., M.P., of Heath Hall, and of other recent auspicious events in the Harewood family. His lordship invited about 600 persons to a ball, which was held in a spacious pavilion erected in the park, near to Harewood House. Amongst those who had the honour of receiving invitations were nearly the whole of the tenants on the noble lord's estates in the West and North Ridings, the clergy of Harewood and the vicinity, the principal residents in the neighbourhood, his lordship's tradesmen in Leeds, and the Harewood troop of the Yorkshire Hussars, who wore their uniform.

13th. Died at his residence at Roundhay, near Leeds, aged 67 years, Sir George Goodman, a magistrate for the borough and for the West-Riding, and formerly one of the parliamentary representatives for the borough. The worthy knight, for two years prior to his death, had suffered from ill-health—paralysis, and neuralgia—brought on by his zealous and close attention to the new and arduous duties which were imposed upon him by being elected a member of the House of Commons in 1852. Sir George was four times elected to the highest civic office in the borough. He was the first Mayor under the Corporation Reform Act, being elected in January, 1836; and as a testimonial of respect, as well as to commemorate the new era in municipal affairs, a full length portrait of him was subscribed for by his fellow-townsmen, and now adorns the council-room at the Town Hall. He was also elected Mayor on the resignation of C. G. Maclea, Esq., on the 1st of January, 1847. He went out of office on the 9th of November following, but on the 9th of November, 1850, he was again elected Mayor, and on the 9th of November, 1851, he was re-elected; but on the 20th of March, 1852, he resigned the office of Mayor in order that he might be eligible to be a candidate for the

1859.—OCT.

representation of the borough in parliament in the spring of 1852. In 1851 Mr. Goodman might be considered as the civic representative of Leeds at the Great Industrial Exhibition in London, in reference to which her Majesty conferred the honour of knighthood upon him in the spring of 1852. In July of the latter year, at the general election, Sir George Goodman was elected, along with the Hon. M. T. Baines, as one of the members for this borough, which he continued to represent till the dissolution in 1857, when he retired on account of ill-health. In politics, Sir George was a liberal; in religion, a baptist; in trade, a wool-stapler at Leeds and Bradford; and both in his public and private capacity he was greatly respected. He was especially distinguished for kindness of manner and an open-hearted disposition, which won for him the affection and esteem of all classes of his fellow-townsmen.——21st. The Mayor of Leeds, Sir Peter Fairbairn, was entertained at a sumptuous banquet by the magistrates and corporation of the borough, in the Civil Court of the Town Hall.——24th. A full-length portrait of William Beckett, Esq., head of the firm of Messrs. Beckett and Co., bankers, Leeds, raised by public subscription, as an acknowledgment, by his fellow-townsmen, of the valuable services which he had rendered to the borough for a long series of years, was formally presented to the corporation, for the purpose of being placed in the Town Hall. The painting was executed by Mr. F. Grant, R.A., at a cost of 400 guineas.——The Hunslet Mechanics' Institution was inaugurated by a soiree in the National school room of that township.——On Tuesday night, the 25th October, and during the greater part of Wednesday, nearly every part of the island was visited by one of the greatest storms of wind, accompanied by showers of sleet and rain, ever recorded. Nor was the hurricane confined to the sea, for it extended to several of the inland towns. The most dreadful disaster at sea was the wreck of the Royal Charter steam-clipper from Australia, and the loss of upwards of 400 lives, off Moelfra, near Bangor.

## LEEDS MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS, NOVEMBER 1ST, 1859.

Those in brackets were elected.

MILL-HILL, [J. W. Smith, L, 328, R. Hirst, C, 327] H. W. Price, C, 326, J. Middleton, L, 321.——WEST, [James Reffitt, L, 1,116, Joseph Wright, C, 721,] G. Tatham, L, 667.——NORTH-WEST, [David Newton, L, 501,] Samuel Freeman, C, 191.——NORTH-EAST, [James Trumble, L, 747,] James Phillips, C, 567.

1859.—Nov.

—NORTH, [William Mawson, L, 351,] Rd. Wm. Moore, C, 292. EAST, [Joseph Lobley, L, 687,] W. St. J. Wheelhouse, C, 411. —KIRKGATE, [Edmund Stead, L, 252,] James Stables, C, 203. —SOUTH, [John Harrison, L, 282,] Wm. France, C, 214. —HUNSLET, [Thomas Wood, L, 641,] Richard Pullen, C, 412. —HOLBECK, [Robert Meek Carter, L, 1,102, Wm. Illingworth, L, 1,083,] Christopher Topham, C, 628. —HEADINGLEY, [Edward Bishops, C,] —BRAMLEY, [Joseph Winn, L, 248, Robert Coxon, L, 248,] F. Ferns, C, 22. William Kelsall, Esq., was elected mayor.

Nov. 9th. The following were elected aldermen:—Wm. Kelsall, J. D. Luccock, R. Wilson, Joseph Middleton, J. O. March, William Firth, Joseph Richardson, Obadiah Nussey.

Nov. 21st. Mill-hill, *vice* Nussey, alderman, [W. H. Price, C, 367,] John Lambert, L, 309.

Nov. 1. An act to amend the laws relating to municipal elections received the royal assent on the 19th of April, and came into operation on the 1st of November. The most important provision relates to the nomination of Councillors, which is for the future to be made in writing, and to be duly published previous to the day of election.——8th. The Leeds Town Council resolved by a majority of 33 to 13, "That the members of the Council wear their official robes on all public and special occasions."——2nd. A new church, situated at Haley Hill, Halifax, dedicated by the title of All Souls, was consecrated by the Right Rev. the Lord Bishop of Ripon. The erection of this sacred edifice was at the cost of Edward Akroyd, Esq., of Bank Field, Halifax, and Denton Park, Otley. Mr. Akroyd has also handsomely endowed the church, and towards the curates' stipend a grant of £70 per annum has been made by the Additional Curates' Society. The patronage is vested in Mr. Akroyd, his heirs and assigns for ever.——16th. The foundation stone of a new church, connected with the Roman Catholic mission of St. Joseph, Hunslet, was laid by Dr. Briggs, the Catholic Bishop of Beverley, in the presence of several of the clergy, and about 1,000 people. The style will be chiefly Gothic, having a small bell turret, and the material will be ornamental brick; the window sills, mullions, jambs, key stones, &c., being of terra cotta instead of stone. It will comprise a chancel and two side chapels, and accommodation will be provided for 560 worshippers.

Dec. 20th. Died, aged 73, the Rev. Francis Thos. Cookson, A.M., of St. John's, Leeds. Mr. Cookson was, at the time of his death, in the 50th year of his incumbency, to which he was appointed in September, 1810. He was a very kind-hearted

1859.—DEC.

and benevolent man, always ready to give with a liberal hand to the poor around him. During the last twelve years of his life he suffered severely, but with cheerful patience, from a painful affection of the limbs, which incapacitated him from active duty ; but even to within the last few weeks he was carried in a chair to his church and performed part of the service, his voice and the fine faculty of reading for which he was remarkable, being little impaired by the malady which crippled his limbs. He was the eleventh incumbent of St. John's church, which was consecrated on the 21st Sept., 1634, by Archbishop Neale. On Monday, the 12th of March, in the following year, the Rev. Edward Munro, M.A., incumbent, Harrow-on-Weald, Stanmore, (diocese of London), was appointed to the vicarage. The number of candidates was 122. The appointment was vested in the mayor for the time being (Mr. Kelsall), the Rev. James Atley, D.D., vicar of Leeds, and Joseph Middleton, J. M. Barret, and John Botterill, three members of the town council.——28th. Died, aged 59, Lord Macauley, one of the most distinguished noblemen and writers of the present century. He was the son of Zackary Macauley, formerly a West India merchant, who was known in public life as the personal friend and coadjutor of the celebrated Wilberforce. In the year 1818 he entered Trinity College, Cambridge, and some years later took his bachelor's degree in the ordinary course. In 1819 he obtained the Chancellors' medal, awarded to compositions in English verse. He won considerably higher honours, and indeed gained the very highest in classical departments which the university could confer. After leaving college he applied himself to the study of law, and was called to the bar in 1826. He began very early to apply himself to literature. He was one of the first and ablest among the contributors to Knight's Quarterly Magazine, and in due season gained access to the Edinburgh Review. The article on Milton—the first in the collection of his essays—appeared in that journal in 1827. Other articles followed in the same periodical, namely, Essays on Bacon, Machiavel, Lord Clive, Warren Hastings, Walpole, Lord Chatham, &c. He also tried his powers as a poet, and wrote "Lays of ancient Rome," a work which added greatly to his fame. In 1831 he entered parliament as member for Colne, a borough in the interest of Lord Landsdowne. He made his first speech in favour of the Reform Bill, and shortly came to be considered a prominent member of the whig party. His eloquence and capacity for the discussion of affairs gave him

1859.—DEC.

great popularity in the house. In 1832 he was elected member for Leeds along with the late Mr. John Marshall, jun. In 1834 he was appointed secretary to the India Board, and shortly afterwards was made a member of the East India Company's supreme court at Calcutta. He was absent in India four years. The year after his return (1839) he was elected for Edinburgh, and in the following year accepted office as secretary at war. At the general election of 1847 he lost his seat for the Scottish capital owing to his vote on the Maynooth grant. Some years later (1852) without canvassing, without even coming forward as a candidate, he was triumphantly returned for Edinburgh at the head of the poll. During this exclusion from public life he devoted his time to literary pursuits. The complete collection of his "Essays," and in 1849 his elaborate History of England from the accession of James II, (2 vols. 8 vo.) were the fruits of this retirement. Two other vols. of the history followed. Macauley was unquestionably a man of genius, as well as a scholar, critic, and reformer, and no higher compliment was ever paid to literature, and none more satisfactory to the nation than his elevation to the peerage in 1857. Lord Macauley was never married, and the title he had so well won, consequently died with him.



# INDEX TO THE ANNALS

OF

## Leeds, York, and surrounding District.

- ABERDEEN** ministry dftd. 663  
**Adel Church** 19, ruins of Roman town 109, Roman coffin found at Addle mill farm 572, Leeds Reformatory school 704  
**Aire**, river navigable 17, description of 108, steam-boat on 243, epigram on 687  
**Airedale College** 193, 376, Mrs. Bacon's endowment 521  
**Akroyd, Jonathan** 545  
**Ale acts** 26, 58, 167  
**Alexandria**, surrender of 203  
**Alfred the Great** 12  
**Allen, B. H.** 346  
**Allerton Hall**, 137  
**America**, war of Independence 154  
**Anne, Queen** 89  
**Aram Eugene** 129, 383  
**Ardsley, East**, colliery accident 224, Maine col. terrible explsn. 534, instance of courage at, 309  
**Arkwright, Sir Richard** 178  
**Armley**, Danish earthquake 7, chapel of ease 66, inscriptions in chapel 85, 98, 106, mills fire at 319, shocking murder at the Malt Mill inn 682  
**Arson**, cruel case of 400, execution for 400  
**Arthington Priory**, sur. of 47  
**Assault**, action for, *Newton v. Terry* 732  
**Askham, Roger** 54  
**Astronomical events**—eclipse sun 88, (annular 438, 708) 50, moon 444, comets 101, 231, 431, (Donati's) 730, spot on sun 361  
**Atkinson, Rev Miles** 228  
**Atkinson, John**, of Leeds 409  
**Atlantic telegraph** 715  
**Avens Wm. of Leeds** 596  
**BACON ROGER**, 24  
**Bacon, Lord** 64, 66  
**Bacon, Mrs. of Bradford**, 626  
**Baildon**, property destroyed by factory operatives 685  
**Baines, Edward**, elected M.P. for Leeds 416, 422, 447; testimonial to 478, life of 561, portrait presented to Leeds mechanics' institute 589  
**Baines, E. jun.**, engraved portrait presented to Leeds mechanics' institute 531, elected M.P. for Leeds 735  
**Baines, M. T.**, made president of the poor-law board 573, resignation of 667, made chancellor of Duchy of Lancaster 674, elected M.P. for Leeds 612, 623, 674, 692, death of 734  
**Baker, Robert**, appointed (sub-) inspector of factories 421, 713  
**Bakers and brewers**, how punished for fraud, 26  
**Balloon ascents** 165, 234, 246, 302, 310, 318, 339, 531  
**Bank of England**, incorporation of 98, notes for small sums 155, 188, cash payments suspd. 187  
**Barkisland free school** 90  
**Barr, Edward**, forgery by 437  
**Burratt, Stephen** 203  
**Barbour, Ann**, murder by 292  
**Barnsley, St George's church** 290, distress 354, Mount Osborne colliery explosion 478, terrible flood 457, St. John's church 686  
**Bateman, Mary, Ykse. witch** 218

- Batley church struck by lightning 165, gas contest 584
- Battles of Adderton 75, Agincourt 40, Albeura 228, Alma 653, Badajoz 232, Baden Hill 8, Balaklava 654, Bannockburn 29, Bomford 13, Borough-bridge 30, Busaco 256, Corunna 221, Flodden Field 45, Hadfield 9, Hastings 14, Inkerman 655, Marston Moor 77, Oporto 222, Rolicca 221, Salamanca 232, Standard 19, Talcaster 71, Talavera 222, Tchernaya 667, Toulouse 242, Towton 42, Vittoria 241, Wakefield Green 42, Waterloo 248, Wetherby 71, Winmoor 9, Worcester 88
- Batty-wood coins found at 526
- Baynbridge, Christopher 44
- Baynes, Adam of Leeds, 64, 81
- Beaumont, the Rev. Dr. 663
- Beckett, Sir John (first) 328
- Beckett, Sir John, public dinner to 439, life of 542
- Beckett, Christopher 535
- Beckett, Wm. portrait presented to corporation 747
- Beckwith, John, of Leeds 673
- Beckwith, W. the Leeds dfctr. 578
- Bede, death of 10
- Beecroft, George 465
- Beecroft, G. S. elected M.P. 697, 735, sec. address royal speech 733, banquet to 736
- Beer Act, 368
- Beeston, church 17, fire at 673, famous for manufacture of bone, lace, and straw hats 57, 69, dreadful tragedy at and execution on Holbeck Moor 100, riots at 188, Main col. explosion 541
- Ben Rhydding 503
- Bennet, J. H. manslghtr by 486
- Bentley, Richard 127
- Benyon, Thomas 408
- Berkenhout, John 173
- Bible, price of in 13th century 27
- Binns, John, of Leeds 185
- Bingley in the twelfth century 18, part an l castle 63 Roman antiquities found 159, chartist riots at 558, fire 709
- Bingham, Joseph 91
- Birchall, Samuel, 246
- Birdsall, Richd., meth. prehr. 307
- Birkbeck, Dr. 479
- Birstal church-yard curious epitaph in 156, planting Glastonbury thorn 162
- Births singular 257, 315, 513, 682
- Bischoff, James 514
- Black, Dr Joseph 194
- Blackburn, Josh. ex. for forgery. 251
- Blanshard, William, made Recorder of Doncaster, 698
- Blenkinsop, Alex. forgery by 552
- Blenkinsop's locomotive 232
- Board of Trade established 97
- Boat acdnts. on the Ouse 364, 412
- Body stealing or burking at Leeds and other places 322, 323, 340, 358, 375, 382
- Boothroyd, Dr. 438
- Bolton-upon-Dearne dbl. mdr. 686
- Bolton priory, surrender of 47, prior's oak 118
- Bolton Grange, near Bradford, atrocious outrage and rob. 616
- Bows and arrows superseded by muskets 46
- Bower, Jos-hua, 667
- Bradford, first and second siege of, 72, 76, woolcombers' festivals 150, 228, 316, 689, worsted trade 176, 191, Piece Hall 177, first mill wrought by steam 190, distress 195, 527, 553, population 200, volunteers 207, Christ church 255, gas company 298, famous strikes 318, 494, riots (power looms) 324, (poor law) 449, civil and military collision 558, typhus fever 382, mechanics' institute 396, soiree of 532, parliamentary elections 394, 422 447, 547, 693, boiler explosions 502, 591, charter of incorporation 548, banquet to Mayor 550, murder of B. Gott 509, fire and catastrophe at Wood and Walker's old mill

- 629, St. George's hall, opening and grand musical festival 635, second ditto 681, description of building 637, great fire 644, banquet to mayor Saml. Smith, 658, Peel statue inaugurated 671, murder of Hannah Holroyd 694, Bradford, Wakefield, and Leeds railway opened 701, Festl. chl. scy bld. Her Majesty 714, wholesale poisoning by lozenges 731
- Bramham Moor, view from, 161; do. park mansion destroyed 338
- Bramhope tunnel acdnt. 652, 712
- Brammah, Joseph 254
- Bramley free school and charities 168, fires at 344, 358, philosophical society 385
- Brayton, nr. Selby, rwy. acdnt 629
- Bread riots 123, 164
- Bridges, Thos., the antiquary 122
- Brierley and Low Moor iron works 168
- Bright, John. marriage of 344
- Briggs, Ezekiel, of Bingley 510
- Bright, H. S. of Hull, fgy by 704
- Brighton church epitaph in 293
- Britain, David, blind organist 367
- Britannia tubular bridge 585
- Britain, Roman invasion 2, cruelty to Queen Boudicea 3, under Julius Agricola 4, subdued by Ida and Ella 8, Saxons paramount 6
- British Museum established 133
- British Association formed 381
- Brook, William, of Leeds 632
- Brook, Rev. W. P. acdnt. to 710
- Brown, William Williams 673
- Brunchiff, case of arson at 294
- Brunswick theatre, Ldn fall of 359
- Bull baiting 175, act abolish 205
- Bunting, Dr., entertainment of, at Leeds 588, death 713
- Burdest, Sir Francis, committal of 226, fined 290
- Burial ground discovered 396
- Burning of murderer 146
- Burke, Edmund, 188
- Burley, near Leeds, made separate vicage 579, St. Matthew's church 639
- Burley Hall, fire at 298
- Burton, R. S. testimonial to 712
- Bury St. Edmunds, great fire at 61
- Butterworth, Mr 421
- CASTLE HOWARD REformatory 676
- Calender correction of. 2, 55, 132
- Canning George 330
- Cannon balls of stone and iron 45
- California gold discovery 573
- Calverley-hall tragedy 58, witchcraft at 60, fire at Calverley 296
- Caldar river public bptms. in 530
- Capp- Newcome of Leeds 200
- Carlisle Earl (sixth) 567
- Caroline Queen, bill of pains 289
- Carlton, vaulted sepulchre at 121
- Carr Mrs. legacies by 330
- Catholics, laws against, 51, insurrection in favour of 54, relief bill 343, first catholic M.P. after 345, catholic priests (Leeds) carried off by typhus fever 543
- Cato-street conspiracy 283
- Cawthra Mr. the vocalist 672
- Cawood John of Leeds 527
- Census 294, 370, 469, 593
- Charles I. death warrant 84
- Charles II restoration 91
- Chapelton, bequests for poor of 137, lighted with gas 501
- Character, defamation of (James v. Braker) 515
- Chartist riots (1839) 464, (1842) 483, great petitions 482, 557
- Chantry Sir Francis 479
- Chatsworth, coms found at 501, storm 713
- Chat Moss fire of 507
- Children forbidden to be sold 14
- Chimney sweepers act 480
- Chorley Thos. resignation as surgeon of Leeds infirmary 492
- Cholera 387, 419, 561, 576, 652
- Churwell, murderous confit. at 672
- Church Fenton station, railway accident 681
- Circus, fall at Leeds 555
- Civil wars 69 to 84

- Clarkson Thomas 532  
 Clark Dr. Adam 390  
 Clayton, attempted murder at 586  
 Cleckheaton congr. chapel 698  
 Clementshaw H. of Wakefield 290  
 Clergymen prevented from sitting  
   in house of commons 203  
 Clifford Thos. Lord killed 40  
 Close Thomas of Leeds 185  
 Cloth manufactr. encouraged 34  
 Cloth making expeditiously, 230  
 Coach accidents 243, 301, 334,  
   359, 391, 405, 613  
 Coaches introd. 57, 64 149, 156  
 Coals their use forbidden 28  
 Coal bed, fire of at Leeds 330  
 Coal mines, juvenile labour in 480  
 Cobbe, Col. appointed chief con-  
   stable for West-Riding 686  
 Cobbett Mr. 358, trial of 377  
 Cobden Rd. W. R. banquet to 574  
 Cobden Rd. address at Leeds on  
   Russian war 662, G. Thompson  
   same subject 664  
 Cochrane Ld. escape from prison 246  
 Cockburn, Rev. Sir Wm. 710  
 Coiners and clippers 149  
 Coins discovery of 211, 269, 296,  
   306, 321, 396, 628, 686  
 Collier, Rev. Jas. seceding from  
   Wesleyan connexion, 633  
 Colliery accidents and explosions  
   188, 224, 255, 256, 316, 402,  
   440, 456, 478, 531, 541, 573,  
   598, 623, 651  
 Colne-bridge, calamitous fire 269  
 Coltman, Justice, death of 577  
 Colton Rev. J. suicide of 163  
 Congreave the poet 97  
 Coniston, manor of sold 45  
 Cook Robert, vicar of Leeds, 62  
 Cook Captain 159  
 Cook, J. P., psnd. by Palmer 676  
 Cookson, Thomas 408  
 Cookson, F. T. Rev. of Leeds 748  
 Corn first used in Britain, 3  
 Corn, mulling of 93, corn acts re-  
   lating to exportation and impor-  
   tation 211, 254, corn law rpl. 530  
 Coulthurst, Dr. H. W. 266  
 County Court Acts 535  
 County elects. limited to 1 day 625  
 Cowling, burst. of reservoir at 574  
 Craven plundered by Scots 29  
 Craven Sir William 61  
 Crawford brs. of Holbeck fatal  
   affray bet. 600  
 Cricket matches 390, 532, 549,  
   558, 567, 699  
 Crimes ceased to be capitally pun-  
   ished 442  
 Crimean monument 737  
 Cromwell, Oliver 91  
 Crossley Frank, peoples park 698  
 Crowhill, description of bog at 312  
 Cudworth, railway accident at 522  
 Cumberland, last Earl of 57  
 Customs, curious 106, 107, 135, 145  
 DANES, massacre of 13  
 Darley Main col. explosion 573  
 Darley, nr. Ripley, murder at 714  
 Darling, Grace 457, 486  
 Dawson, Wm. meth. preachr. 470  
 Dawson, Jo. of Roydshall 244  
 Days in month, ancient rule to  
   know 55  
 Debt first contracted on govern-  
   ment security 40  
 Debts, act 2 and 3 Vic. 85, 461  
 Denison, Sir Thomas 145  
 Dennison, William of Leeds 163  
 Derby govt. dtd. 731, 737  
 Desmond, Countess of 56  
 Dewsbury, ancient cross at 8,  
   church rebuilt 146, Roman an-  
   tiquities and coins found at 292,  
   377, fire at and mournful oc-  
   currence 329, first lighted with  
   gas 343, Springfield Indepen-  
   dent chapel 676  
 Diamond, valuable 646  
 Diet of roor in 1800, 97  
 Diphtheria 732  
 Dissenters' act 436, chapel bill 509  
 Distress, general 184, 194, 260,  
   288, 444  
 Dobson, Jo. the murderer 492  
 Dodworth, flood at 457  
 Doncaster, Viscount created 63  
 Doncaster, destroyed by fire 11,  
   earthquake at 175, Christ ch.  
   struck by lightning 440, parish

- church destroyed by fire 626,  
memorable St. Leger races 497,  
589, forgery on branch York-  
shire Banking Co. 599
- Donkey, an aged 425
- Doomsday book 15
- Douglas, Gen. in Yorkshire 30
- Dove, Harriet murder of 674
- Dream, curious effects of 423
- Drighlington schl. endowmnt. 100
- Drummond, Ed. murder of 488
- Dudley railway accident nr 716
- Dyon, William and John the  
murderers 337
- EARTHQUAKE, Shocks in  
England 105, 111, 134, 157,  
161, 175, 187, 418, 427, 488, 621  
America 234, West Indies 482,  
488, at Naples 705
- Educational, national, Lord John  
Russell's scheme defeated 677
- Edward the Confessor 14
- Edwd. I. Queen in labour, while  
hunting 28
- Edwards, the Revd. 165
- Elland, grant of market to 30
- Elland tragedy 33
- Election riots 422, 423, 447
- Ellescar, singular case of suffcn. 643
- Elliot, Ebenezer 580
- Elizabeth, Queen 58
- Elopement from Roundhay 529
- Ely, Rev. John 405, 550
- Embsay priory founded 18
- England, invasion of by Bruce 35
- England and Scotland united 111  
do Ireland 202
- Eng. and France, peace betn. 204
- England at war 206, 208
- European pestilence 35
- Executions for murder 156, 162,  
163, 205, 211, 213, 218, 225,  
227 493, 538, 553, 554, 568,  
510, 624, 625, 743, for burglary  
175, forgery 206, 251
- Exhibition, great (1851) 595
- FACTORY CHILD, ILL  
usage of, at Leeds 406, factory  
acts 414, 538
- Fairfax, General 97
- Fairs forbdn. in ch. yards 27
- Fairweather, murder at 554
- Farnley, boiler explosion at 369
- Farnley chantry 40, do. hall 57,  
139, do. wood plot 93
- Farsley, murder at by strikers 395
- Fashions in different ages 43, 49,  
51, 53, 110, 175, 201
- Fatal vespers 64
- Favour, Dr. of Halifax 64
- Fawcett, Rev. Richard 148, 443
- Fawkes, Francis 156
- Fearne, Josiah the murderer 131
- Female bigamist, sale of 510
- Female (Leeds) murder of 488
- Fisher, Mary, suicide of 641
- Fitzwilliam, Countess 296  
do. Earl 398, 701, re-  
moval from office 281
- Flanshaw, murder at 205
- Flaxman, John 328
- Flesh, license to eat 66
- Flies, plague of 669
- Flich of Bacon oath 145
- Floods 54, 60, 103, 584, 681, 699
- Florin, issue of 578
- Flour, adulteration 552
- Food, price of in 14th century 29
- Forgery, executions for 206, 251  
act to abolish executions for 359
- Forgers, (Leeds) abscondg. of 535
- Forster, W. E. dinner to 679
- Foster, Rev. John 487
- Fothergill, Dr. John 161
- Fountain, Joseph 172
- Fountain's Abbey 38
- Fox, George Lane 571
- France, great inundation 680
- Franklin expedition 519
- French, threatened invasion 187
- French Revolution 170, 308, 554
- Friends' first meeting place in  
Leeds 90
- Frodsham, the tragedian 148
- Frogs, shower of 508
- Frost great 61, 102, 245, 456, 662
- Fulneck 133, Montgomery at 586,  
centenary jubilee 664
- GALLOWAY JOHN 207
- Gardens, kitchen first cultivd. 45
- Garforth school 140
- Gargrave, tradition respecting 45

- Gargrave, first rector of 24  
 Gascoigne, Sir Thos. 226  
 Gaskell, Benjamin 672  
 Gateshead, terrific explosion at 657  
 George III, 143, attempted murder of 165, 184, 201, dth of 283  
 George IVth's coronation 291  
     do. death 360  
 Gibson, Saml the naturalist 575  
 Gildersome, serious burglary 708,  
     boiler explosion 717  
 Giles, Rev. E. J. farewell ads. 522  
 Gipseys 383  
 Glass making 10, 153, value of in  
     16th centy 49, glass cloth 442  
 Glasgow and Paisley riots at 283  
 Goodman, George presentation of  
     mayors' chain to 438, fac-simile  
     presented to mayor for the time  
     being by him, 694, portrait  
     presentation 448, knighted 608,  
     elected M.P. for Leeds 612,  
     death 746  
 Goodman, Benjamin 558  
 Goodricke, Sir H. J. 405  
 Gott, Benjamin 465, bust of 678  
 Grammar first printed 44  
 Gray, Thos. on railways, 287,  
 Great Eastern stn. ship expln. 745  
 Green E. J. accident to 714  
 Greenfield murder at 385  
 Guest, General 130  
 Guernsey, catastrophe at 421  
 HABEAS CORPUS ACT sus-  
     pended 181, 192, 561  
 Haddin, Kitty, of Hudd. 532  
 Hailstone, Samuel 599  
 Haley, John 696  
 Hall, Henry resignation as trea-  
     surer to Leeds Infirmary, 656,  
     sketch of life 745  
 Hall, Robt. serious accident to  
     661, elected M.P. for Leeds 692  
     death and sketch of life 694  
 Halton, near Leeds, famous for  
     cloth dyeing 157  
 Halifax, origin of 126, bequests  
     to 97, first vicar of 27, popula-  
     tion in 16th century 49, act to  
     encourage cloth trade at 51,  
     grammar school 57; corpora-  
     tion, charter of 67, bloody field  
     80, the goldsmith's grave at 64,  
     inscription on church bell 104,  
     church struck by lightning 66,  
     penny tokens 85, gibbet law at  
     86, lord of the manor's impost  
     on cloth 108, free school 120,  
     earthquake at 142, piece hall  
     176, new church 190, colours  
     presented to volunteers 208,  
     murder at (Asquith) 277,  
     lighted with gas 300, tithe com-  
     mutation bill 345, horrible mur-  
     der in a newspaper office 711,  
     parliamentary elections at 394,  
     422, 447, 547, 693, incorporatd.  
     554, boiler explosion 591, fire at  
     Lee mills 640, Haley-hill work-  
     ing man's college 676, all saints  
     church 677 great gathering of  
     sabbath schools 679, presenta-  
     tion of peoples' park by Frank  
     Crossley 698  
 Hamburg, great fire at 482  
 Hamilton, Rev R. W. testimonl.  
     to 494, life of 559  
 Hampale Priory 21  
 Harewood House 143, visited by  
     Princess Victoria 430; Edwin,  
     Lord 182; Edward, Earl of  
     287; Henry, second Earl, sud-  
     den death of 479; Henry, third  
     Earl, accident to and death, and  
     sketch of life 688; Countess of  
     466; rejoicings at Harewood  
     House 523, 746; bridge, thunder  
     storm at 544, vicar suspended  
     573, chill murder 736  
 Harcourt, Hon Ed. Vernon 551  
 Harrison, John 89  
 Harrison, Jno the mechanician 105  
 Harrison, the Leeds firm telr 684  
 Harrogate High, church at 382  
 Hartley, David 111, 140  
 Hastings, Lady Elizabeth 123  
 Havelock, General 704  
 Haworth church 139  
 Headingley charity school 190,  
     church 441, gardens 567, closed  
     714  
 Heaps, John of Leeds 682

- Hearth tax 94  
 Hebden bridge, fire at 340  
 Heckmondwike, dreadful and fatal panic in methodist chapel 345  
 Hemingfield col. expln. 623, 651  
 Henry VI. armies *v.* Duke of York 41  
 Henry I., 15; II. penance of 21;  
 Hepper, W. E. appntd. Leeds boro' treasurer 707, portrait 745  
 Herschell, William 297  
 Hey, William of Leeds 270, 502  
 Hick, Samuel 348  
 High treason, trials for 181  
 Hill, John Hepworth 573  
 Hipperholme-cum-Brighouse free grammar school 84  
 Hippopotomic remains discovered at Wortley 609  
 Hirst, Wm. testml. to 319, his appeal 389, in gaol 443, life of 716  
 Holbeck, chapel of 16 and 17, opposition to Fawcett's ministry at 134, population in 17th century 7, murder at 211, St. Matthew's church 346, dreadful fire work explosion 431 poisoning at (Illingworth) 513, manslaughter 600, St. John's church 551, St. Barnabas 671, municipal cemetery 697; races, serious accident at 700; Holbeck Mechanics' Institute, 709  
 Holdsworth, Dr. murder of 51.  
 Hole, James, prize essay on mechanics' institutes 630  
 Holmfirth floods 291, 600  
 Holmes, Rev. Jo. presentation to 503, 516, death of 650  
 Hood, Robin the outlaw 25  
 Hook, Dr. elected vicar of Leeds 444, bust of presented to Mrs Hook 512, Banquet and testimonials to 739.  
 Horsforth chapel 141, mrdrt at 211  
 Horbury church 170  
 Horse, stones found in stomach of 340, 586  
 Howard, John 171  
 Howden, terrible accident at the Ouse chemical works 704  
 Howley Hall 57  
 Huddersfield, the Ramsden family 103, Roman antiquities found 128, piece hall 146, tunnel of canal 228, Huddersfield and Upper Agbrigg infirmary 246, 377, stoppage of banks 257, riots 263, 288, first lighted with gas 292, accident 317, great fire 337, 504, 598, hurricane 346, thunder storm 380, parliamentary elections 415, 447, 547, 628, 693, murder at 466, rejoicings at 618, fire at Folly-hall factory 685; boiler explosion at Upper Aspley 784; railway accident at the Springwood junction. 713  
 Hulme, Dr. of Halifax 214  
 Hull, plague 67, siege of 70, regatta 347, fire 621, flood 584  
 Humber, great flood 584  
 Hume, Joseph 663  
 Hunt, Henry, prosecution of 280  
 Hunslet chapel (St. Mary's) 67 tower built 396, made separate vicarage 548, in 17th century 87, fall of windmill 153, fires at 209, 217, stone coffin discovered 305, child stolen from 311, suspension bridge 346, lighted with gas 431 cemetery at Woodhouse-hill 517, murder at by Malkin 568, strike at Kits n's works 597, mysterious occurrence in the Longbottom family 644, cholera 646, accident at Wilson's foundry 683; erection of Roman Catholic church 748  
 Hurricanes, great 459, 623  
 Hydrophobia, cases of 153, 402  
 IBRETSON, Sir Henry 131  
 Ikin, Thomas 409  
 Ilkley Wells hydropathic establishment 679, mysterious death of Mrs. McKnight 680  
 Indian massacre 481; great military mutiny 694  
 Ireland, great distress 529  
 JACKSON, Petty of Holbeck, 310



James I book of sports 63  
 James, Wm. of Leeds police 702  
 Jenner, Dr. parly. grant to 205  
 Jenkins, Henry (old) 95  
 Jews, massacre at York 22  
 Jocelyn, Lord 651  
 Joint Stock Company's mania 320  
 Jones, Paul 157  
 Jowett, Hannah of Bradford 321  
 KEIGHLEY, parish church of  
   108, 527, fall of a wool ware-  
   house 291; infant prodigy at  
   162; fire at 712  
 Kellingbeck, John B. D. 117  
 Kirkdale cave 293  
 Kirkheaton, murder at 227  
 Kirkless park, fatal poaching  
   affay in 335  
 Kirkstall, Selith the shepherd,  
   fixed his hermitage at 13;  
   abbey founded 19, old granary  
   taken down 127, fall of dormi-  
   tory 130, fall of part of tower  
   157, Graham's gift towards  
   erection of church at 323, St.  
   Stephen's 338, do. struck by  
   lightning 400; abbey mills,  
   fire of 335, mechanics' institute  
   524, fortune-teller 213  
 Kitchingman family 137  
 Knaresbro' castle founded 15,  
   refuge of murderer of Thos.  
   A'Beckett 21, granted to John  
   O'Gaunt 36, surrendered 81,  
   priory founded 25, coins found  
   at 211, blind Jack of 226, fall  
   of viaduct 554, skeletons found  
   at 619  
 Knights Templars 18, 21  
 LAKE, John, Dr. 65, 91, 97, 104  
 Lambert, Daniel the Giant, 223  
 Lambert, Phineas 403  
 Lancaster, the Earl of 31  
 Lancaster and York Houses, con-  
   flict between 41, do. united 44  
 Lascelles, Hon. W. S. 596  
 Lawrence, Mrs of Studley 518  
 Leah, Henry 529  
 Leeds, its origin 7, state of in  
   different ages 15, 46, 63, 109,  
   116, 195, Thoresby's history of

(*Leeds continued*)

116, Castle 16, Richard II. at  
 37, Scarbro's hotel built on site  
 145, Roman ford discovered  
 281, Rokley family 44, Rokley  
 hall 68, 195, common bake-  
 house 52, "Tentures" near  
 Leeds Bridge 56; Leeds soke,  
 origin of 61, 254, trial respecting  
 166, act to abolish 461, Leeds  
 called upon to pay ship money  
 68; civil wars, town taken by  
 Fairfax 73; Red hall, Chas. I.  
 imprisoned in 83, 195, Aus-  
 thorpe, Knostrop, and North  
 hall 196; manor of Leeds,  
 5-9ths of purchased by cor-  
 poration 89, old prison 89, tokens  
 89, 414; flesh eating forbidden  
 92, hearth tax 94, cloth  
 market removed from Briggate  
 103, Ald. Atkinson's house 113,  
 toll claimed by Ripon 107,  
 watch and ward kept 104, Duke  
 of created 105, ducking stool  
 at 106, freemen 107, General  
 Wade's encampment 129, relics  
 found 129, human remains 171,  
 558; Aire river, water pumped  
 from 105, curious boat ride on 118  
 Improvement acts 133, 136,  
 172, debating society 180, fall  
 of a chapel 186, machinery 187,  
 butchers' custom of killing 218,  
 Middle Row, removal of 297,  
 318, Haigh park races 310,  
 wrestling match at 337; Leeds  
 barracks, fatal fight at 418,  
 Princess Victoria at Leeds 430,  
 public exhibitions 461, 495,  
 burial grounds, state of 481,  
 closed 552, 657, committee of  
*versus* the Rev. S Kettlewell  
 593; statistical inquiry as to,  
 Leeds 463, Yorkshire agricul-  
 tural society 577, floral show,  
 578; fall of circus 555, dense  
 fog 591, 642; recreation so-  
 ciety (1st concert) 611, dis-  
 solved 733; inauguration of  
 Peels statue 615, Leeds aca-

*(Leeds continued)*

demy of arts 631, 644, boiler explosion at Low Fold mills 639, departure of 28th regiment for seat of war 646; Woodhouse Moor, meeting of freeholders as to 657, town council's committee 659, purchase of 669, 671, licensed victuall-ers' protection society first dinner 662, breaking into Leeds nunnery 672, Sunday hands on Woodhouse moor 679, public reception to 4th Dragoon guards 681, chess playing 682, Russian guns presented to town 694, publicly placed on Woodhouse moor 700, removal of stalls, &c., from Briggate 700, boiler explosion at Harehills lane colliery 705, banquet to Lord-lieutenant of West Riding by Sir Peter Fairbairn, mayor 745 corporation banquet to mayor 747, meeting mechanical engineers 745, statue of Queen presented by Sir Peter Fairbairn 717, Queen Victoria's visit to Leeds 717, musical festivals 728, meeting of British Association 730

*Body stealing* 375, 382

*Distress* 154, 184, 198, 260, 478, 480, 481, 488

*Epidemics*, sweating sickness 49, plague 57, 81, fever 202, 542, 570, 592, influenza 442, 552, cholera 576, 646, small pox 585

*Fires* 185, 193, 212, 213, 230, 260, 265, 306, 314, 320, 336, 370, 423, 438, 590, 680, 684

*Floods* 144, 149, 154, 171, 182, 193, 213, 256, 294, 315, 347, 451, 465.

*Murders, &c*, Josiah Fearn 131, Mary Bateman 218, Ann Cryer 397, John Brown 225, Michael Stokes, 553, Thomas Malkin, 568; Wm. Dove, 647; John Hannah 683, Charles Normington, 743

*(Leeds continued)*

*Population*, 155, 294, 370, 469, 593

*Rejoicings and illuminations*, 168, 169, 201, 244, 289, 380; fall of Sebastopol, 668; peace illumination. 678; marriage of the princess royal, 706

*Riots*, (turnpike) 132; (corn) 240 (plug drawing) 483; (police and military) 500, 505, 591, 714

*Storms*, 204, 225, 305, 375, 380, 400, 401, 413, 419, 424, 459, 494, 495, 507, 585, 644, 648

*Strikes*, 166, 358, 370, 397, 402, 417, 511, 541, 591, 633, 730

*Volunteers*, 163; review of 183 185; testimonials and thanks to, &c., 182, 205, 208; new corps, 737

*Chantries*.—St. Mary's, (Leeds bridge), 33; chantry in Kirk-gate, 40; do. in Lady-lane, 52

*Churches and matters relating thereto*—St Peter's 16, advowson given to priory at York 17, made a vicarage 25, purchase of advowson 56, register begins 55, curious extracts from 56, 66, 74, 99 103, 125, 157, 682, epitaphs, monuments, &c., 92, 99, 101, 113, 185, 193, 222, 737, 738 inhabitants assessed for repairs of church 93, repaired by corporation 96, Aldiesses pew enlarged 97, organ 116, 473; organist, election of 290, bells 190, vicarage house 120 purchase of and tithes commutation 301; Vicar, chancery suit respecting election of 130, list of vicars 475, 476, Rev. R. Fawcett elected vicar 254, do. Dr. Hook 444, do. Dr. Atlay, 744; election of churchwardens 425, 481, church rebuilt and description 472, ancient stone coffin found in 223, Vicarage act 510. St. John's 67, 68, chancery suit as to benefice 90, 148, inscrip-

*(Leeds continued.)*

tion in 102; election of vicar, 748, 749; Holy Trinity 119; St. Paul's 172, organ 199; St. James' 181; Christchurch and Saint Mary's 299; St Mark's 300, presentation of font by Ald. Maclea 641; St. George's 440, organ 585; St. Luke's 469; St. Andrew's 515, St. Saviour's 522, refusal to bury at 642; St. Phillip's 524; St. John's (Holbeck) 551; St. Thomas's 579; All Saints 590; St. Matthew's 596, St. Jude's 619, St. Michael's 619, 647; St. Stephen's 660; St. Columbus' church 665.

*Chapels* — (old) Mill Hill 98, (new) 557; Friends' meeting house 108; White chapel 134, 165; Salem 173; Queen-street 306; centenary services, &c., 664; Belgrave 436; East-parade 462; Stone chapel, (1st Baptist) 159; Call-lane 104; Great George's street 579; Byron-street 480; Methodist chapel Albion street, (now used as a warehouse) 205; Wesleyan, Meadow lane, 257; Brunswick, 309; Oxford-place 436; St. Peter's 416; Albion chapel 186; Catholic (Lady-lane) 180; Mount St Mary, 630, terrible and fatal thunder-storm at 649; St. Patrick's, 371; St. Ann's 459; Methodist New Connexion, Wood-house-lane, 693

*Institutions, literary, educational &c.*—Free Grammar School 49, 52, 65, repaired 304, masters of 145, 360, system of teaching extended 666, meeting at new building 677, foundation stone laid 710, description of building 739; Leeds library 148; election of librarian, 643; National school 234; Lancasterian free school 240; Philosophical and

*(Leeds continued.)*

literary society 274, opened to non-subscribers 625, exhibition 627, Baron's bequest to 652, lectures 599, 671, 686, 687; Society for encouraging fine arts 221; Sunday school union 259; School of practical art 553, exhibition 671; Catholic literary institution 598, soiree 625; Mechanics' institute established 307, meeting in favour of new building, 408; opening of hall, 477; soirees, &c. 486, 514, 532, 552, 572, 580, 591, 592, 596, 622, 643, 645, 691, 703, 730; Young men's christian institute, 660; West end people's institute 672; East ward mechanics' 687, Church institute 688, Industrial school 569; fire at 676; Floral society 445; Rifle club, 448; Choral society, 395; Madrigal and motet society 587; musical union dissolved 678

*Charitable and Provident institutions, &c.*—Workhouse 66; school of industry (1st) 194; temperance society 366; Jenkinson's and Dally's almshouses 80; Harrison's hospital 88; bequests to 132, 142; Baynes' bequest to poor widows, 218; Dixon's bequest to widows of clergymen 118; Potter's almshouses 121; Chantrill's bequest to 145; public charities, enquiry into 63; deeds respecting, where kept 98; list of benefactions to Leeds 113; poor use property 365; benevolent, or strangers' friend society 171; Infirmary 174, grounds extended 266, election of physician *vice* Hobson 495, do. *vice* Chorley 403, *vice* Thorp 406, Maude's donation to 599; Mr. Clapham's legacy to 610, treasurers resignation 656; house of recovery 205, 500 new workhouse, 702; guardian

*(Leeds continued)*

society 292; eye and ear infirmary 292; tradesmen's benevolent institution 496; public dispensary 307; charitable enquiry office 585; savings bank 268; model lodging house 594.

*Public buildings, &c.*—Fulling mills 36; Moot-hall 112, statue placed in front of 115; coloured cloth-hall 141, white do. 154, 155; assembly rooms 156; music-hall 177; court-house 230, 256, enlargement of 516; subscription baths 277; cavalry barracks 290; Bazaar, new shambles 300; south market 305; oil gas company 309, gas co incorporation of 270, new do. 409. Leeds first lighted with coal gas 277; Leeds co. commercial bank stoppage of 240; post office removal 526; Leeds and West-riding bank stpge. of 526 Leeds club 534; borough gaol (Armley) 482, 488, 546, gaoler appointment of 544, prize for plans 496, enlarged 687, chaplain resignatn and appoitmnt. 687; Leeds and West-riding trade protectn. society 572; co-operative flour mill 549; chamr. of commerce 594, meetings 646, 701; central market 314, 331; Leeds and Yks. fire insurance co. 315, 621, commercial buildings 325; corn exchange 327; branch bank of England 331; Kirkgate market 645, 693; cattle market, 632; grant for, 645, 649; taken from lessees 713 compensation for sites 497; stock exchange 552; Town-hall 592, premiums for plans 623, grants towards 626, 712, 714, 730, estimates 633, tower 640, 646, 649, organ 684, 698, foundation stone laid 633, works stopped 677, compensation to Mr. Atack 687, hall opened by Queen Victoria 717, description

*(Leeds continued)*

of building 724; main sewers 612, discoveries in connexion with 618, 628; water works 223, 445, purchase of by council, &c. 610, 640, 641, Wharfe supply 651, lease of lands at Arthington 661; foundation stone laid 665, compensation to mill owners on Wharfe 675; Leeds and Liverpool canal 150;

*Rai ways.*—Leeds and Selby 203, 360, opened 419; Leeds and Thirsk, 522; viaducts, 574; opened, 577; Leeds and Bradford 529. Leeds and Dewsbury 561, Leeds, Bradford and Halifax junction 651.

*Roads.*—Leeds and Birstal 318, Whitehall 407, Pontefract and Barnsdale 296.

*Bridges.*—Leeds bridge 121, 143, widened 187, Wellington bridge 269, free for foot passengers 548 Union at Hunslet 346, Victoria bridge 346, 459.

*Newspapers.*—Leeds newspapers price of 180, 188, Mercury 117, publication tria weekly 666, Intelligencer 133, publication day altered 399, Independent and Gazette 274, Patriot 310, Times 399, Leeds and Yorksh. daily express 666, Leeds and West-riding express 705.

*Corporation and loca' gormnt.*—Charters Chas. 1st 65, Chas. II 92, do. restored 104, James II 103. Old corporation—cook to 93, on sabbath breaking 93 redeeming son of a townsman 102 mace 107, 121, assistant fined 108, penalty for not wearing gowns 109, grant for a treat 110, 112, treatng. stopped 118, addrs. to Queen Anne 115, curious election ceremonies of mayor, and business of the year 139, 145, 146, purchase of pews in churches 132, mayors' refusal to accept office 142, on monopo-

*(Leeds continued.)*

lies 179, subscriptn. for defence of kingdom 190, grant towards tithe commutation 306, enquiry as to old corporation 409, last members 427, municipal reform 400, act passed 433, chancery suit between new and old corporation 469, dispute between council and justices 587, council on post office reform &c. 492, refusal to mend parish church clock 495, resolutions to apply for power to sell gas 625, Lord mayors' banquet to corporation 649, corporation's banquet to lord mayor 658, council paying for flags &c. out of their own pockets 661, resolution to wear robes on public occasions 748, Mayors and other officers down to passing of municipal reform act 428, first mayor after act passed 435, mayors' objection to attend parish church 440, presentation of gold chain to Geo. Goodman 694, salary to mayor 713. Aldermen 435, 458, 462, 478, 487, 504, 512, 529, 609, 642, 685, 707. Councillors &c. contested elections 434, and on 1st of Nov. every year from 1835. Public officers appointed 437, 669 Recorder 112, 214, 393, 429, 443, 461. Town-clerk 133, 430, 494. Borough treasurer 663, 707. Justice of peace 437, 572, 677. Board of Guardians 512, for elections see April, every year after 1844, inquiry into disputed elections 611, 624; inquiry into frauds of proxy voting papers 700.

*Public meetings, &c.*—Corn laws 463, 487, 499, 503, 513, 526, 530, celebration of passing of act, 531 608. Education 462, 536, 587, 631 Factory question 383, 384, 503, 527, 533. Parliamentary reform 370, 372,

*(Leeds continued.)*

373, 376, 386, 390, 418, 559, 575, 599, 732, 734. Parish church affairs 405, 417. Poor relief of 375, 383, 446, 480, 482, 537. Slavery abolition of 367, 397, 401, 495. Temperance 487, 495, 548, 629, 650. Miscellaneous meetings 375, 399, 418, 577, 586, 597, 658, 662, 664, 666, 676, 707.

*Parliamentary elections*—Proposal to enfranchise Leeds, 293, 359 Representatives.—During the Commonwealth, 64, 81. Elections—Marshall and Macaulay 392; Baines *vice* Macaulay, 416; Beckett and Baines, 422; Baines and Molesworth, 447; Beckett and Aldam 469; Beckett and Marshall, 546; Goodman and Baines, 612; M. T. Baines re-elected, 623, 674; Baines and Hall, (fall of hustings,) 692; Beecroft *vice* Hall, 697; Baines and Beecroft, 735

Leigh, Dr. of Halifax, 155

Libel action of Gough v. Lees, 710

Lightning curious, effect of 165, 166, 231, 427

Lindsay, Dd., fortunate heir, 341

Linsley, Joseph, 245

Linley top colliery explosion, 402

Liverpool and Manchester Railway, 354, 356

Livingstone, Dr. at Leeds, 701

Lloyd, colonel 338; testimonial to, 182

Lockwood Spa, 336

Locomotives, 165, 203, 232, 354

London, founded 3, first lighted with lanterns, 39, plague at, 58, 65, 95; great fire, 13, 93, 181; St. Pauls, 100; great storm 110; 440; no popery riot, 158; fog, 322, great strike at, 599

Longevity, instances of, 43, 54, 56, 95, 122, 134, 141, 150, 172, 187, 216, 322, 354, 331, 339, 340, 343, 374, 397, 403, 417, 501, 521, 584, 628

Longely bishop. endwmt. fund., 687

- Lotteries at Leeds, 578; singular result of a lottery, 527  
 Louis XVI., trial of, 178  
 Lovers, suicide of, 534, 537  
 Low-moor iron works, 167; strike at, 494; Low-moor church, yd., curious epitaph in, 308  
 Low Dinsworth, murder at, 513  
 Lowther, Sir W., 111; Sir Jn. 503  
 Lucknow, fall of, 709  
 Luddite riots, 234 to 240  
 Ludhill colliery explosion, 691  
 MACAULAY, Lord, 749  
 Machinery, progress of, 200; destruction of, 188  
 Magna Charta signed, 24  
 Magnetic needle, discovery of, 23  
 Mail bags, exactn for stlmg., 285  
 Manchester. disturbance at, 264; massacre (Peterloo) 279; great fire at, 502; Manchester and Leeds Railway, 461; opening of a great art treasures exhibition, 694  
 Manningham hall struck by lightning, 291  
 Mann, John, forgery by 708  
 Marriage, double, 331  
 Marshall, John, 516; bust of, 534  
 Marshall, James, lieutenant 68th light infantry, 738  
 Martin, Jonathan, the incendiary 342  
 Mary Queen of Scots, insurrection in favour of, 54  
 Masboro,' 163; aplng acdnt at 472  
 Mason, William, the poet, 191  
 Matrimonial hoax, 618  
 Maud, Thomas 190; Maud, John donation to Leeds infirmry, 599  
 M'Clure, captain, parliamentary vote to, 666  
 Meanwood chrch. 579  
 Meltham, religious conten. at, 344  
 Metcalfe, John, (blind Jack of Knaresbro,) 226  
 Methodist, New Connexion, 189  
 Primitive Methodists, origin of 224; accident to at Keighley 291; fatal coach accident to preachers 301; schism in Methodist society, (fly sheets,) 578  
 Methley, curious phenomena at 561  
 Middleton colliery explosion, 316  
 Military reviews, 179, 208  
 Militia, 1st West York embd. 180  
 Militia act, 206; balloting 215  
 Miller, Dr. 172  
 Milner, John, B.D.; 110; Revd. Joseph, 189; Isaac, D.D., 285; Charles, 443  
 Mirfield, singular cause of its separation from Dewsbury, 26  
 Mirfield, hrble. triple mrd. at 538  
 Mixenden moor, discovery of antiquities on, 159  
 Molesworth, Sir W., 670  
 Monasteries, suppression of, 47  
 Monetary panic, 549, 700  
 Montgomery, James, 647  
 Moortown, bequest to poor of 137  
 Moors (Yorkshire) on fire 144, 328  
 Morgan, Rev. T. of Morley, 194  
 Morgan, Thomas, of Leeds, 643  
 Morley, scottish army at, 31; customs at, in the 18th century, 135; fossil nuts discovered at, 316; Morley tunnel, 526  
 Morpeth, Lord, West Riding address to 492  
 Morritt, J. B. Esq., Rokely pk. 494  
 Moscow destroyed by fire, 233  
 Mount Tabor, murder at 492  
 Mummy at Phlsicl. hll. 275, 336  
 Municipal corporation (enquiry) 409; acts, 427, 433, 747  
 Murray, Matthew, 323  
 Musgrave, James, of Leeds, 504  
 Murray, Lindley 323  
 NAPOLEON 1st. made emperor, 211; famous decree of, 215; death of, 291  
 Napoleon, Louis attempted revolution by 439, 468; escape from Ham, 529; made member of natonl. assembly, 558; made president, 571; coup d'etat by 598; marriage, 625; visit to Queen Victoria, 664; imperial prince-born, 676; made emperor 619; attempt on life, 706  
 National land company, 516  
 Naval engagements 188; Nile,



- 193; Copenhagen, 203; Trafalgar, 22  
 Navvies, riot by, at Marsden, 575  
 Naylor, James, of East Ardsley 91  
 Needles first made, 48  
 Nelson, Lord, funeral of, 215  
 Nesse, Revd. C., of Leeds, 111  
 Nevill, Gervas of Holbeck 100  
 Newcastle and Darlington Rly. 508  
 Newspaper, first English 57, 94;  
 stamp duty repealed 666  
 Newton, Dr. Wesleyan 648  
 New York, great fire at, 437, 521  
 Nicholson, James, robbery of 284  
 death of 440  
 Nicholson, Margaret 339  
 Nicholson, John, Airdrie poet, 489  
 Nicholas, grand duke of Russia at  
 Leeds, 258; Nicholas, emperor,  
 death of 663  
 Nicholls, Charlotte, better known  
 as Currer Bell, 663  
 Nicoll, Robert, the poet, 452  
 Norman conquest, 14  
 Normanton church appropriated  
 to St. John of Jerusalem, 39  
 Northumberland, first king of 8  
 Norton, Richard, suicide of and  
 refusal to bury, 372  
 OCEAN penny postage lec. on 600  
 O'Conner, Fergus imprisoned 467  
 strange conduct, 611; lunacy, 628;  
 death of 667  
 O'Connell, Daniel trial of, 499;  
 death of, 541  
 Odd Fellows Gala, (Leeds) 509  
 Oliver, the spy 261  
 Oratorio, the first composed by  
 a Yorkshireman n. 541  
 Organic remains, discovery of 344  
 Orsini, Felice, lec. at Leeds, 684  
 Ossett cloth makers in 1734, 122  
 Ossett and Gawthorpe exempt  
 from Wakefield rate, 257  
 Otley, convent of Esholt at 46  
 Otley, fire at, 182; mr. at 587. 661  
 Oulton, St. John's church at 335  
 Ouse, boat accident on 364, 412  
 Ovenden, Illingworth chch. at 46  
 Owen, Robert, 732  
 PARR, Thomas, (old parr) 43  
 Palmerston ministry defeated, 707  
 Paris, entry of allies into, 244;  
 fall of, 246; civil war in, 559  
 Parkgate, murder at 544  
 Parkinson, Bethel, murder of 706  
 Parliament houses des. by fire, 421  
 Parsons, the Rev. Edward, 403  
 Patriotic fund, 208  
 Payne, Wm. 380; Dr. 409  
 Pease, J. admn. to hse. com. 398  
 Pease, Thomas Benson, 529  
 Peace between allies and Rus. 676  
 rejoicing, 678, 680  
 Pedestrian feats, 153, 175, 223  
 296, 465, 476 498 501  
 Peel, Sir R. fatal accident to 588  
 Leeds monument to, 589; inaugura-  
 tion and description of 615  
 Penny postage act, 462, 465  
 Percival, Mr. murder of 234  
 Peterboro, terrible fire at 424  
 Philip, Louis, death of 589  
 Pickard, R. H. burial of 555  
 Pickett, Mr. of York, 184  
 Pigs, extraordinary, 323, 341, 357  
 Pins, act as to sale of 48  
 Pitt, William, 213  
 Pivett, Christopher, 186  
 Plague, 57, 58, 65, 67, 81, 95  
 Plint, Thomas, of Leeds, 705  
 Pontefract, Peter of 24; Castle,  
 first and second siege, 82; third siege  
 and capitulation, 85, supposed dis-  
 covery of the remains of the Earl of  
 Lancaster, 295; lighted with gas, 390  
 Pope's bull, 590  
 Potter, Rev. Jno. 131; Sir T. 514  
 Predam, Samuel, of Leeds, 201  
 Press gangs, 157, 161  
 Price, Dr. Richard, 175  
 Priestley, Dr. Joseph 209  
 Printing, invention of. 40  
 Prisoner 43 yrs (Leeds mer.), 673  
 Pudsey new church, 291  
 RACES, celbtd. 209, 213, 226, 635  
 Radcliffe, John, M.D. 116  
 Raglan, Lord, death of, 666  
 Railway mania. 518; accidents,  
 522 541, 549, 629; cheap fares, 589  
 Ramsden, Jesse, 200  
 Rawden, Sir George, 103; Baptist  
 college, 75  
 Rawmarsh colliery explosion 598  
 Rawson, Benjamin of Bradford. 504



- Redpath, frauds by 686  
 Reform agitation, &c., 164, 280  
 298, 359, 387, 385, 391  
 Richard II. at Leeds castle, and  
 murder at Pontefract, 37  
 Richardson, James, laudable con-  
 duct of 592  
 Ripon destroyed by fire 13.  
 30. during civil wars 77, St.  
 Wilfrid's chrch, steeple blown  
 down 92, Ripon diocese 439,  
 horn blower 528, Earl of 733,  
 Dean of (Erskine) 742  
 Ripponden flood 119, chapel  
 bells 92  
 Robinson Thos, 248, The Hon,  
 F. W. 370  
 Robin Hood, 25, colliery ex. 456  
 Rogers, the Rev. Thos. 385  
 Roman antiquities 67 110, 112,  
 117, 122, 124, 126, 127, 128,  
 149, 151, 154, 159, 162, 188,  
 212, 241, 304, 306, 573  
 Romald's moor, wise Robin of  
 171, boy lost on 573  
 Ross Captain return of 407  
 Rosse's telescope 511  
 Rotherham college founded 43,  
 murder near 730  
 Rothery, W. mystrs. dth. of 467  
 Rothwell colliery explosion 188,  
 psning. at 258, strikes 500, 503  
 Roundhay. St. John's church  
 314, murder at 743  
 Russell, lord Wm. mrd. of 466  
 SADDLEWORTH, tradition 88  
 dinner to aged people of 521  
 Saddler, M. T. dinner to 394,  
 statue of 426  
 Saltaire works 639 testimonial  
 to Titus Salt 683  
 Sandal castle, royalty at 34, 41,  
 bequest to church 44  
 Saunderson, Dr. 123  
 Saville, Sir Jno. 48, 66. Sir Geo.  
 90, 170  
 Saxon influence 6, 7, expld. from  
 York 8, antiquities 121, 260  
 Saxton Peter and Chr. 87  
 Scatcherd, Norrison on old cus-  
 toms &c. 135, 165, 166, 377,  
 383, 414, death 625  
 Schroeder, Henry 625  
 Scottish army payt. of 85  
 Scoresby, Rev. Dr. 691  
 Scott, Rev. Jas. 163, Rev. Wal-  
 ter 729  
 Sebastopol Ho. Com. report on  
 665 trblefightng 665. fall of 667  
 Shackleton, Jonathan 531  
 Sharp, William 409  
 Shaw, J. H. dinner to 622, Cuth-  
 bert 152  
 Sheffield cutlers incorporation  
 65, castle rdced. 80, rio's 173,  
 storm 204, stoppage of old  
 bank 488, distress 488, athe-  
 nium 548, explosion of fire-  
 works 707, panic in Surrey  
 Music-hall 729  
 Sherburn, battle of 83  
 Sheepshanks, Wm. 127  
 Sheep stealing, exon. for 284  
 Shipley, boiler explosion 228,  
 power looms destr'd. 295, St.  
 Paul's church 305  
 Shipwrecks. ocean monarch 567,  
 amazon 599. tayleur 645,  
 royal charter 747  
 Shops early closing 635  
 Shrewsbury, catastrophe at 698  
 Simpson, Rev. Dd. 194  
 Sinclair, Rev. W. appointed to  
 rectory of Pulbrough 686, tes-  
 timonial to 690  
 Skipton, castle 17, 90. hsl'd. bk.  
 at 68, Petyt's bequest to 111,  
 fire 370 first soiree Mec. Inst.  
 574, par. ch. st. by lightg. 682  
 Slavery abolition 153, 216, 405,  
 419, 457  
 Sleep, long 329, walker 425  
 Smeaton, John F.R.S. 120.  
 Smith Dr. J.P. 593, Wm. 592,  
 Rev. Thos. 624  
 Snow stms. 98, 441, 626, 628, 644  
 South sea bubble 118, Leeds  
 victim of 146  
 Southowram, St. Ann's chapel  
 257, petrified horns fnd. 339

- Sowerby bridge, chapel 46, ch.  
 144, town-hall opened 701,  
 railway accident 549  
 Spinning wheel invented 46  
 Springs in Leeds 121  
 Squire, Jno. the dicator. 206  
 Stanley John, the bigamist 367  
 Stanfield-hall, murder 571  
 Stead, Rd. of Leeds 698  
 Stephenson, Geo. locomotives  
 319, life 565  
 Stocks, Capt. banquet to 673  
 Stokes, Ml. murder by 553  
 Stoor, Jervas of Leeds 211  
 Stowe, H. B. visit to Leeds 638  
 Strength, feat of 497  
 Stuarts. attempd. restoratn, 130  
 Sturge, Joseph 736  
 Sunderland family 138  
 Surr. B. cruelty to 277  
 Surrey gardens, Lond. panic 683  
 Sydney, Thos. made Ld. mayor  
 of London 640. banquet to  
 Leeds corporation 649. ban-  
 quet to lord mayor 658,  
 TABLE turning mania 631  
 Talfourd, Justice death of 646  
 Taylor, Jo. of Leeds 553  
 Tea adulteration 498  
 Templenewsam, fire at 67,  
 Knight's Templars 18. 21,  
 poaching affray 643  
 Tennant, Thos. robbery of 397,  
 tablet to 412  
 Terry, Geo. difications. by 736  
 Testimonials to — Alcock 510,  
 Andrew 508, Bedford 659.  
 Beerolt 664, Bischoff, 645,  
 Bissington 684, Burton 712,  
 Carbutt 707, Cardigan 682,  
 Eddison, 393, Flood, 401,  
 Garlick, 651, Gaunt, 395,  
 Grauhan 737, Hamilton 494,  
 Hill, 530, Hudswell 674.  
 Johnson 521, Kitson 514,  
 Lapage 536, Lee 511, and me-  
 morial window 702, Marcus,  
 514, Marsh 521, Pearson 662,  
 Richardson 395, Roebuck 682  
 Scales 534 and 584, Sinclair  
 690, Snowden 673, Spark 663  
 Sturgeon 584, Tottie 373,  
 Traice 658 Upton 439, Wardle  
 704, Wesley, Dr. 576. Wick-  
 steed 650  
 Thackrah, C. T. 401  
 robbery of 704, T. B. death of  
 733  
 Thames tunl. 321. hvy. tide 337  
 Thompson, Rev. Peter 213, Fk.  
 Thoresby, R. 90, histry. 116, 259  
 Thornhill, pnfl. occurre. at 400,  
 Thorp, Dr. of Leeds 577  
 Thresh. Abm. killed by his  
 master 616  
 Tickhill castle taken 80  
 Tillotson, Archbishop 105  
 Titley, Anthony of Leeds 516  
 Tobacco plant 46. 163, adultera-  
 tion of 575  
 Tong lads, *versus* lads of Brad-  
 ford 533  
 Travelling, quick case of 58, in  
 coaching days 110, 149. 156  
 Turner, Alex. of Leeds 257  
 Turpin, Dick 124  
 UNDERCLIFFE college 367  
 VACCINE inoculatn. 205, 207  
 Vane, Sir Henry beheaded 93  
 Victoria proclaimed 446, coro-  
 nation 456. marriage 463, 465  
 attempt on life 467, 482, 588,  
 marriage portion to princess  
 royal 694. marriage of 706  
 Volunteers 180, 187, 204, 206  
 WADDINGTON, widows hos-  
 pital at 109  
 Wadsworth near Halifax, awful  
 murder at 706  
 Wages (1361) 38  
 Wakefield church 31, bells 157,  
 266 spire restored 117. do.  
 repaired &c. 306, grant to  
 chapel of St. Mary 36 Wakd.  
 green, battle of 42, grammar  
 school 57, the manor of 66,  
 taken by Fairfax 74, registry  
 formed 88, ancient statues  
 found 139, sheep and cattle  
 fair 145, pauper lunc. asylum

- 269, Roman antiquities found  
 291, first lighted with gas 299  
 soke cause 323, parliamentary  
 elections 394, 422, 547, 693,  
 bog pit colliery explosion 440,  
 election riot 447, dense fog  
 514, suicide of lovers 534, in-  
 corporated 554, extraordinary  
 penance case 589, murder at  
 by Dobson 625  
 Walcherin expedition 223  
 Walker, Joshua 295, Rev. Geo.  
 369, Thomas 465  
 War events (1854) 652  
 Ware, Reid Joseph 561  
 Washington Genl. death of 194  
 Wat Tyler, insurreen. under 36  
 Waterhouse Natl. of Halifax 83  
 Watt Jas 291, inventions 155  
 Water-spout 256  
 Watson, Rev. Richard 397  
 Weights & measures act 421  
 Wellington, Duke state funl. 621  
 Wetherby battle of 71, sold in  
 lots 315  
 Wentworth house rejoicings 170  
 216, 420, excursion to from  
 Leeds, & fatal accident 531  
 Wesley, John. his preaching &c.  
 127, 128, 141, 142, life 173  
 Wesleyan conferences at Leeds  
 136, 150, 175, 189, 521, 666,  
 association founded 335  
 West, William of Leeds 596  
 West-riding registrar, election  
 of 487. (for parliamentary  
 elections see Yorkshire)  
 Wharnccliffe, Baron 328, 524 670  
 Wharfedale viaduct 528  
 Wheat, price of 184, 185, 195,  
 198, 199, 201, 203, 458, 463,  
 487, forestalling 198  
 Whitaker, Dr. 259  
 Whitkirk murder at 213, curious  
 entries in church register 96  
 Whitehead, Wm. of Leeds 705  
 Whiteley, Rev. Joseph 256  
 Wilberforce, 404, monument to  
 406, 419  
 Wilks, John 152, 190  
 William the conqueror 14  
 William IVth proclaimed 361,  
 coronation 380, death 446  
 Wilkinson, John of Hunslet 676  
 Williamson, James, M.D. 524  
 Wilson, Ben. 143, Richard  
 Fountayne 545  
 Witchcraft executions for 58, 62  
 Wolfe, last killed at Leeds 28  
 Wombwell, Sir Geo. 662  
 Wool, price of 28, 175, duty 34,  
 35, laws affecting woollen trade  
 37, 51, 58, 64, 87, 91, 108, 122  
 156, 162, 167  
 Wortley school endowed 100,  
 chapel of 165, 242, small pox  
 at 456, Wortley (new) Zion  
 school 435, explosn. at Monk  
 bridge forge 686, do. Bapty's  
 works 585, St. John's ch. 614,  
 supposed child murder 736  
 Wolsey, cardinal 45, 46  
 Wooley park fire at 213  
 Wood, Rev. Wm. 220, Sir Geo.  
 311, George Wm. 497  
 Woodhouse nr. Huddl. fire 369  
 Woodhouse cemetery 426, Wes-  
 leyan chapel at 406  
 Woodchurch, fall of 377  
 Wright, Rev. Thos. 112, Wright  
 Griffith 533  
 Wycliffe, John 31  
 YARMOUTH terble. catastroph.  
 at 516  
 Yeadon, religious disturbe. 609  
 York, origin 2, seat of Roman  
 Emperors 4, in time of Sax-  
 ons and Danes 6, cathedral  
 8, destr'd. 9, rebuilt 10 north  
 transept built 26, do. nave 27,  
 choir do. 36, 366, glazed 34,  
 39, destroyed by fire 342, 467,  
 Archbishops 10, 13, 14, 17, 19  
 20, 26, 35, 37, 38, 44, 94, 217,  
 551, library founded 10, St.  
 Mary's abbey 17, 333, manor  
 house 334, first parliament at  
 21, 28, great fire 18, 105, regis-  
 ter begins 24, Edward III  
 army at 32, Brabant weavers

settled at 34, 35, plague 37, 104, corpus christi 41. 56, Edward IVth's grant to citizens 43, first printing press at 45 churches confiscated and insurrectn. 47, privilege to make coverlets 48, earthquake 55, prison on Ouse bidge. 55, siege of 77, 79, fire at Clifford's tower 103, catholic lord mayor and aldermen 104, mint at 107 castle rebuilt 109, jailor appointed 625, county-hall 156, riots 140. hurricane 144, lunatic asylum 153, 157, fire at 244, Yorkemanuel 161 judges' lodgings 215, cordwainers co dissolved 221, civic banquet 590, antiquities discovd. 149, 152, 212, 217, 242. 246, 269,

341, 391, 555, York and Lancaster houses, conflict betwn. 41, united 44

*Yorkshire* ravaged by king of Mercia 9, earthquake 134, storms 327, 424, 457, 550, coiners and clippers 149, 150, philosophical society 298, 332 musical festivals 303, 430, Union of Mech. Inst. founded 451, soirees 542, 559, 650, 712 stoppage of Yks. commercial bank 487 parliamentary elections 112, 120, 122, 127, 131, 132, 142, 161, 164, 165, 172, 186, 215, 216, 234, 269, 283, (four members) 327, 362, 369 373, West riding 394, 426, 447, 470, 526, 531 547, 571, 612, 693, 734, 785.

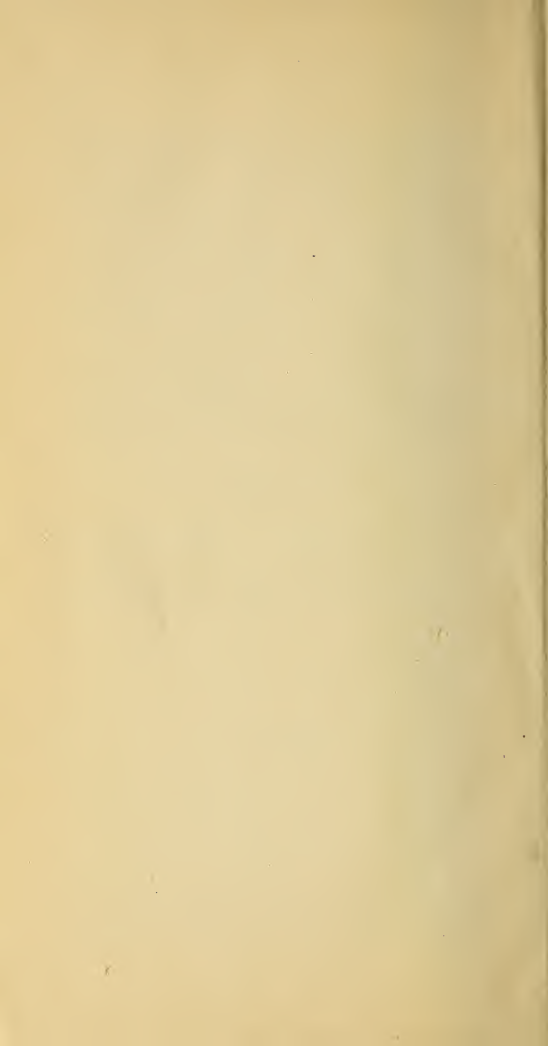
## ILLUSTRATIONS.

	PAGE.
York Minster ( <i>frontispiece</i> )	
Kirkstall Abbey -- --	19
Moot Hall -- --	112
View of Leeds -- --	116
Skipton in 1830 -- --	632

	PAGE.
Huddersfield, -- --	377
Parish church -- --	476
Town-hall -- --	724
Crimean monument -- --	737

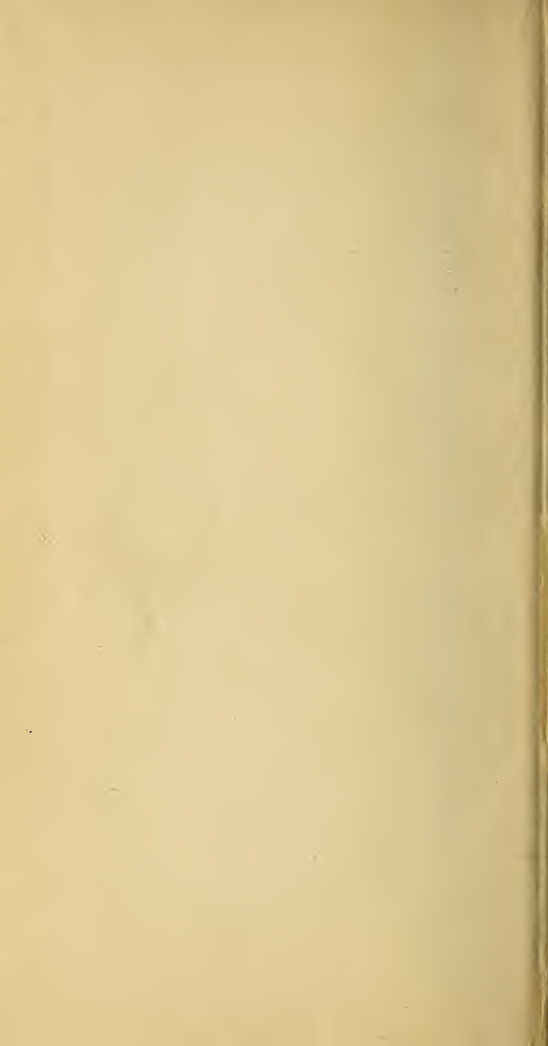
THE END.

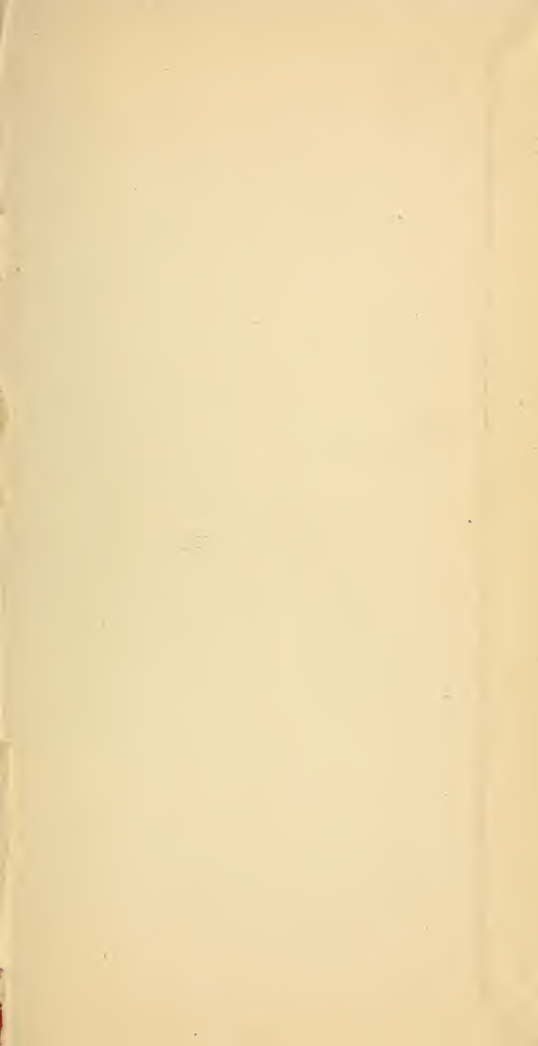












LIBRARY OF CONGRESS



0 022 120 606 A